

ANTIBACTERIAL OXALIDINONES

The present invention relates to antibiotic compounds and in particular to antibiotic compounds containing a substituted oxazolidinone ring. This invention further relates to processes for their preparation, to intermediates useful in their preparation, to their use as therapeutic agents and to pharmaceutical compositions containing them.

The international microbiological community continues to express serious concern that the evolution of antibiotic resistance could result in strains against which currently available antibacterial agents will be ineffective. In general, bacterial pathogens may be classified as either Gram-positive or Gram-negative pathogens. Antibiotic compounds with effective activity against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative pathogens are generally regarded as having a broad spectrum of activity. The compounds of the present invention are regarded as principally effective against Gram-positive pathogens.

Gram-positive pathogens, for example Staphylococci, Enterococci, and Streptococci are particularly important because of the development of resistant strains which are both difficult to treat and difficult to eradicate from the hospital environment once established. Examples of such strains are methicillin resistant staphylococcus (MRSA), methicillin resistant coagulase negative staphylococci (MRCNS), penicillin resistant Streptococcus pneumoniae and multiply resistant Enterococcus faecium.

The major clinically effective antibiotic for treatment of such resistant Gram-positive pathogens is vancomycin. Vancomycin is a glycopeptide and is associated with various toxicities including nephrotoxicity. Furthermore, and most importantly, antibacterial resistance to vancomycin and other glycopeptides is also appearing. This resistance is increasing at a steady rate rendering these agents less and less effective in the treatment of Gram-positive pathogens. There is also now increasing resistance appearing towards agents such as β -lactams, quinolones and macrolides used for the treatment of upper respiratory tract infections, also caused by certain Gram negative strains including H.influenzae and M.catarrhalis.

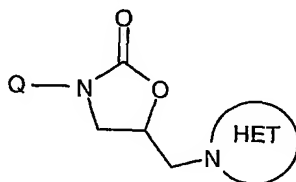
Certain antibacterial compounds containing an oxazolidinone ring have been described in the art (for example, Walter A. Gregory et al in J.Med.Chem. 1990, 33, 2569-2578 and Chung-Ho Park et al in J.Med.Chem. 1992, 35, 1156-1165). Such antibacterial oxazolidinone compounds with a 5-acetamidomethyl side-chain may be subject to mammalian peptidase metabolism. Furthermore, bacterial resistance to known antibacterial agents may develop, for

example, by (i) the evolution of active binding sites in the bacteria rendering a previously active pharmacophore less effective or redundant, (ii) the evolution of means to chemically deactivate a given pharmacophore and/or (iii) the development and/or up-regulation of efflux mechanisms. Therefore, there remains an ongoing need to find new antibacterial agents with a
5 favourable pharmacological profile, in particular for compounds containing new pharmacophores.

Additionally, certain antibacterial compounds containing an oxazolidinone ring have activity against the enzyme mono-amine oxidase (MAO), for instance compounds with amidomethyl or hydroxymethyl side chains at C-5 of the oxazolidinone ring. This may
10 potentially lead to undesirable properties such as elevation in blood pressure when administered to a patient, or potentially cause drug-drug interactions. Therefore, there remains an ongoing need to find new antibacterial agents of the oxazolidinone class with a more favourable profile against MAO.

We have discovered a new class of antibiotic compounds containing an oxazolidinone
15 ring substituted by a 5-azolylmethyl moiety in which the azole group is linked via a nitrogen atom. These compounds have particularly useful activity against Gram-positive pathogens including MRSA and MRCNS and, in particular, against various strains exhibiting resistance to vancomycin and against *E. faecium* strains resistant to both aminoglycosides and clinically used β -lactams.

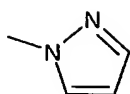
20 Accordingly the present invention provides a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or an in-vivo-hydrolysable ester thereof,



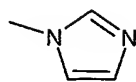
(I)

wherein -N-HET is selected from the structures (Ia) to (If) below :-

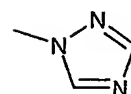
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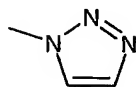
(Ia)



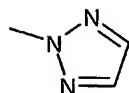
(Ib)



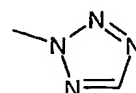
(Ic)



(Id)

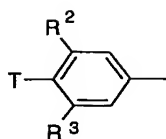


(Ie)

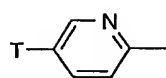


(If)

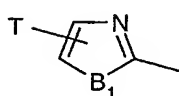
Q is selected from Q1 to Q6 :-



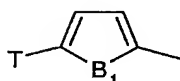
Q1



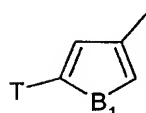
Q2



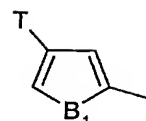
Q3



Q4



Q5

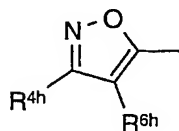


Q6

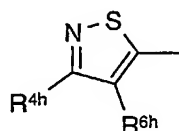
R₂ and R₃ are independently selected from H, F, Cl, CF₃, OMe, SMe, Me and Et;

10 B₁ is O or S;

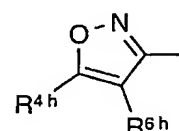
T is selected from the groups in (TAa1) to (TAa12):



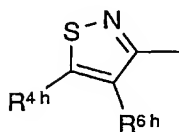
(TAa1)



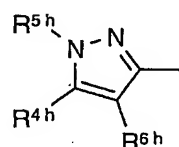
(TAa2)



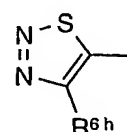
(TAa3)



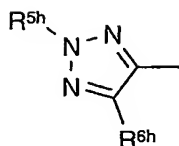
(TAa4)



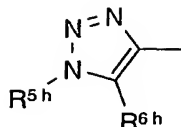
(TAa5)



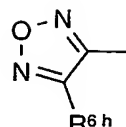
(TAa6)



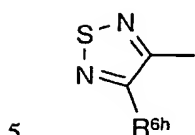
(TAa7)



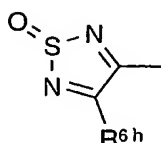
(TAa8)



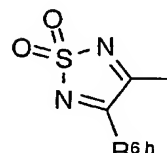
(TAa9)



(TAa10)



(TAa11)



(TAa12)

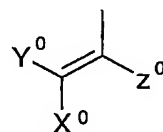
wherein :

- R^{6h} is selected from hydrogen, (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, carbamoyl and cyano;
- R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- (q is 0, 1 or 2), (1-4C)alkanoyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, benzyloxy-(1-4C)alkyl, (2-4C)alkanoylamino, -CONRcRv and -NRcRv wherein any (1-4C)alkyl group contained in the preceding values for R^{4h} and R^{5h} is optionally substituted by up to three substituents independently selected from hydroxy (not on C1 of an alkoxy group, and excluding geminal disubstitution), oxo, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, (1-4C)alkoxy, (2-4C)alkanoyloxy, hydroxyimino, (1-4C)alkoxyimino, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- (q is 0, 1 or 2), (1-4C)alkylSO₂-NRv-, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, -CONRcRv, and -NRcRv (not on C1 of an alkoxy group, and excluding geminal disubstitution); wherein Rv is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl and Rc is as hereinafter defined;
- R^{4h} and R^{5h} may further be independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl {optionally substituted by one, two or three substituents independently selected from hydroxy (excluding geminal disubstitution), oxo, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, (1-4C)alkoxy, (2-4C)alkanoyloxy, phosphoryl [-O-P(O)(OH)₂, and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphiryl [-O-P(OH)₂ and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], hydroxyimino, (1-4C)alkoxyimino, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- (q is 0, 1 or 2), (1-4C)alkylSO₂-NRv-, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, -CONRcRv, -NRcRv (excluding geminal disubstitution), ORc, and

phenyl (optionally substituted by one, two or three substituents independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxy and halo)); wherein R_v is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl and R_c is as hereinafter defined; and wherein

- any (1-4C)alkyl group contained in the immediately preceding optional substituents (when
 5 R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently (1-4C)alkyl) is itself optionally substituted by up to three substituents independently selected from hydroxy (not on C1 of an alkoxy group, and excluding geminal disubstitution), oxo, trifluoromethyl, cyano, nitro, (1-4C)alkoxy, (2-4C)alkanoyloxy, hydroxyimino, (1-4C)alkoxyimino, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- (q is 0, 1 or 2), (1-4C)alkylSO₂-NR_v-, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, -CONR_cR_v, and -NR_cR_v (not on C1 of an
 10 alkoxy group, and excluding geminal disubstitution); wherein R_v is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl and R_c is as hereinafter defined;
 or R^{4h} is selected from one of the groups in (TAaa) to (TAab) below, or (where appropriate) one of R^{4h} and R^{5h} is selected from the above list of R^{4h} and R^{5h} values, and the other is selected from one of the groups in (TAaa) to (TAab) below :-

- 15 (TAaa) a group of the formula (TAaa1)



(TAaa1)

wherein Z⁰ is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl;

- X⁰ and Y⁰ are independently selected from hydrogen, (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl,
 20 halo, cyano, nitro, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- (q is 0, 1 or 2), R_vR_wNSO₂-, trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl and -CONR_vR_w [wherein R_v is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; R_w is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl];

(TAab) an acetylene of the formula -≡H or -≡-(1-4C)alkyl;

wherein R_c is selected from groups (Rc1) to (Rc2) :-

- 25 (Rc1) (1-6C)alkyl {optionally substituted by one or more (1-4C)alkanoyl groups (including geminal disubstitution) and/or optionally monosubstituted by cyano, (1-4C)alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, phenyl (optionally substituted as for AR1 defined hereinafter), (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- (q is 0, 1 or 2); or, on any but the first carbon atom of the (1-6C)alkyl chain, optionally substituted by one or more groups (including geminal
 30 disubstitution) each independently selected from hydroxy and fluoro, and/or optionally

monosubstituted by oxo, -NR_vR_w [wherein R_v is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; R_w is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl], (1-6C)alkanoylamino, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonylamino, N-(1-4C)alkyl-N-(1-6C)alkanoylamino, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_pNH- or (1-4C)alkylS(O)_p-((1-4C)alkyl)N- (p is 1 or 2));
 (Rc2) R¹³CO-, R¹³SO₂- or R¹³CS-

5 wherein R¹³ is selected from (Rc2a) to (Rc2d) :-

(Rc2a) hydrogen, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl and -NR_vR_w [wherein R_v is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; R_w is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl];

(Rc2b) (1-10C)alkyl

{optionally substituted by one or more groups (including geminal disubstitution) each

- 10 independently selected from hydroxy, (1-10C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkanoyl, carboxy, phosphoryl [-O-P(O)(OH)₂], and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphiryl [-O-P(OH)₂ and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], and amino; and/or optionally substituted by one group selected from phosphonate [phosphono, -P(O)(OH)₂, and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy
- 15 derivatives thereof], phosphinate [-P(OH)₂ and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], cyano, halo, trifluoromethyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkylamino, di((1-4C)alkyl)amino, (1-6C)alkanoylamino, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonylamino, N-(1-4C)alkyl-N-(1-6C)alkanoylamino, (1-4C)alkylaminocarbonyl, di((1-4C)alkyl)aminocarbonyl, (1-
- 20 4C)alkylS(O)_pNH-, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_p-((1-4C)alkyl)N-, fluoro(1-4C)alkylS(O)_pNH-, fluoro(1-4C)alkylS(O)_p((1-4C)alkyl)N-, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- [the (1-4C)alkyl group of (1-4C)alkylS(O)_q- being optionally substituted by one substituent selected from hydroxy, (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkanoyl, phosphoryl [-O-P(O)(OH)₂], and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphiryl [-O-P(OH)₂ and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives
- 25 thereof], amino, cyano, halo, trifluoromethyl, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, carboxy, (1-4C)alkylamino, di((1-4C)alkyl)amino, (1-6C)alkanoylamino, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonylamino, N-(1-4C)alkyl-N-(1-6C)alkanoylamino, (1-4C)alkylaminocarbonyl, di((1-4C)alkyl)aminocarbonyl, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_pNH-, (1-4C)alkylS(O)_p-((1-4C)alkyl)N-, and (1-
- 30 4C)alkylS(O)_q-];

(Rc2c) R¹⁴C(O)O(1-6C)alkyl wherein R¹⁴ is AR1, AR2, (1-4C)alkylamino (the (1-4C)alkyl group being optionally substituted by (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl or by carboxy), benzyloxy-(1-4C)alkyl or (1-10C)alkyl {optionally substituted as defined for (Rc2b)};

(**Rc2d**) $R^{15}O$ - wherein R^{15} is benzyl, (1-6C)alkyl {optionally substituted as defined for (**Rc2c**)}, or AR2b;

wherein

AR1 is an optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted naphthyl;

5 **AR2** is an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered, fully unsaturated (i.e with the maximum degree of unsaturation) monocyclic heteroaryl ring containing up to four heteroatoms independently selected from O, N and S (but not containing any O-O, O-S or S-S bonds), and linked via a ring carbon atom, or a ring nitrogen atom if the ring is not thereby quaternised;

AR2a is a partially hydrogenated version of AR2 (i.e. AR2 systems retaining some, but not
10 the full, degree of unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom or linked via a ring nitrogen atom if the ring is not thereby quaternised;

AR2b is a fully hydrogenated version of AR2 (i.e. AR2 systems having no unsaturation), linked via a ring carbon atom or linked via a ring nitrogen atom.

15 In this specification, where it is stated that a ring may be linked via an sp^2 carbon atom it is to be understood that the ring is linked via one of the carbon atoms in a C=C double bond.

In this specification the term 'alkyl' includes straight chained and branched structures. For example, (1-6C)alkyl includes propyl, isopropyl and tert-butyl. However, references to individual alkyl groups such as "propyl" are specific for the straight chained version only, and
20 references to individual branched chain alkyl groups such as "isopropyl" are specific for the branched chain version only. A similar convention applies to other radicals, for example halo(1-4C)alkyl includes 1-bromoethyl and 2-bromoethyl.

There follow particular and suitable values for certain substituents and groups which may be referred to in this specification. These values may be used where appropriate with any
25 of the values, aspects, claims, definitions and embodiments disclosed hereinbefore, or hereinafter.

Examples of (1-4C)alkyl and (1-5C)alkyl include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl and t-butyl; examples of (1-6C)alkyl include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, t-butyl, pentyl and hexyl; examples of (1-10C)alkyl include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, pentyl, hexyl,
30 heptyl, octyl and nonyl; examples of (1-4C)alkanoylamino-(1-4C)alkyl include formamidomethyl, acetamidomethyl and acetamidoethyl; examples of hydroxy(1-4C)alkyl and hydroxy(1-6C)alkyl include hydroxymethyl, 1-hydroxyethyl, 2-hydroxyethyl and 3-hydroxypropyl; examples of (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl include methoxycarbonyl,

- ethoxycarbonyl and propoxycarbonyl; examples of 2-((1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl)ethenyl include 2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethenyl and 2-(ethoxycarbonyl)ethenyl; examples of 2-cyano-2-((1-4C)alkyl)ethenyl include 2-cyano-2-methylethenyl and 2-cyano-2-ethylethenyl; examples of 2-nitro-2-((1-4C)alkyl)ethenyl include 2-nitro-2-methylethenyl and 2-nitro-2-ethylethenyl;
- 5 examples of 2-((1-4C)alkylaminocarbonyl)ethenyl include 2-(methylaminocarbonyl)ethenyl and 2-(ethylaminocarbonyl)ethenyl; examples of (2-4C)alkenyl include allyl and vinyl; examples of (2-4C)alkynyl include ethynyl and 2-propynyl; examples of (1-4C)alkanoyl include formyl, acetyl and propionyl; examples of (1-4C)alkoxy include methoxy, ethoxy and propoxy; examples of (1-6C)alkoxy and (1-10C)alkoxy include methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy and pentoxy; examples of (1-4C)alkylthio include methylthio and ethylthio; examples of (1-4C)alkylamino include methylamino, ethylamino and propylamino; examples of di-((1-4C)alkyl)amino include dimethylamino, N-ethyl-N-methylamino, diethylamino, N-methyl-N-propylamino and dipropylamino; examples of halo groups include fluoro, chloro and bromo; examples of (1-4C)alkylsulfonyl include
- 15 methylsulfonyl and ethylsulfonyl; examples of (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy and (1-6C)alkoxy-(1-6C)alkoxy include methoxymethoxy, 2-methoxyethoxy, 2-ethoxyethoxy and 3-methoxypropoxy; examples of (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy include 2-(methoxymethoxy)ethoxy, 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethoxy; 3-(2-methoxyethoxy)propoxy and 2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy;
- 20 examples of (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl include methoxymethoxycarbonyl, 2-methoxyethoxycarbonyl, 2-ethoxyethoxycarbonyl and 3-methoxypropoxycarbonyl; examples of (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl include 2-(methoxymethoxy)ethoxycarbonyl, 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethoxycarbonyl, 3-(2-methoxyethoxy)propoxycarbonyl and 2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxycarbonyl; examples of
- 25 (1-4C)alkylS(O)₂amino include methylsulfonylamino and ethylsulfonylamino; examples of (1-4C)alkanoylamino and (1-6C)alkanoylamino include formamido, acetamido and propionylamino; examples of (2-4C)alkanoylamino include acetamido and propionylamino; examples of (1-4C)alkoxycarbonylamino include methoxycarbonylamino and ethoxycarbonylamino; examples of N-(1-4C)alkyl-N-(1-6C)alkanoylamino include N-methylacetamido, N-ethylacetamido and N-methylpropionamido; examples of (1-4C)alkylS(O)_pNH- wherein p is 1 or 2 include methylsulfinylamino, methylsulfonylamino, ethylsulfinylamino and ethylsulfonylamino; examples of (1-4C)alkylS(O)_p((1-4C)alkyl)N- wherein p is 1 or 2 include methylsulfinylmethylamino, methylsulfonylmethylamino, 2-
- 30

- (ethylsulfinyl)ethylamino and 2-(ethylsulfonyl)ethylamino; examples of **fluoro(1-4C)alkylS(O)_pNH-** wherein p is 1 or 2 include trifluoromethylsulfinylamino and trifluoromethylsulfonylamino; examples of **fluoro(1-4C)alkylS(O)_p((1-4C)alkyl)NH-** wherein p is 1 or 2 include trifluoromethylsulfinylmethylamino and trifluoromethylsulfonylmethylamino
- 5 examples of **(1-4C)alkoxy(hydroxy)phosphoryl** include methoxy(hydroxy)phosphoryl and ethoxy(hydroxy)phosphoryl; examples of **di-(1-4C)alkoxyphosphoryl** include di-methoxyphosphoryl, di-ethoxyphosphoryl and ethoxy(methoxy)phosphoryl;
- 10 examples of **(1-4C)alkylS(O)_q-** wherein q is 0, 1 or 2 include methylthio, ethylthio, methylsulfinyl, ethylsulfinyl, methylsulfonyl and ethylsulfonyl; examples of **phenylS(O)_q** and **naphthylS(O)_q-** wherein q is 0, 1 or 2 are phenylthio, phenylsulfinyl, phenylsulfonyl and naphthylthio, naphthylsulfinyl and naphthylsulfonyl respectively; examples of **benzyloxy-(1-4C)alkyl** include benzyloxymethyl and benzyloxyethyl; examples of a **(3-4C)alkylene** chain are trimethylene or tetramethylene; examples of **(1-6C)alkoxy-(1-6C)alkyl** include
- 15 methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl and 2-methoxyethyl; examples of **hydroxy-(2-6C)alkoxy** include 2-hydroxyethoxy and 3-hydroxypropoxy; examples of **(1-4C)alkylamino-(2-6C)alkoxy** include 2-methylaminoethoxy and 2-ethylaminoethoxy; examples of **di-(1-4C)alkylamino-(2-6C)alkoxy** include 2-dimethylaminoethoxy and 2-diethylaminoethoxy; examples of **phenyl(1-4C)alkyl** include benzyl and phenethyl; examples of **(1-4C)alkylcarbamoyl** include methylcarbamoyl and ethylcarbamoyl; examples of **di((1-4C)alkyl)carbamoyl** include di(methyl)carbamoyl and di(ethyl)carbamoyl; examples of **hydroxyimino(1-4C)alkyl** include hydroxyiminomethyl, 2-(hydroxyimino)ethyl and 1-(hydroxyimino)ethyl; examples of **(1-4C)alkoxyimino-(1-4C)alkyl** include methoxyiminomethyl, ethoxyiminomethyl, 1-(methoxyimino)ethyl and 2-
- 25 (methoxyimino)ethyl; examples of **(1-4C)alkoxyimino** include methoxyimino and ethoxyiminol; examples of **halo(1-4C)alkyl** include, halomethyl, 1-haloethyl, 2-haloethyl, and 3-halopropyl; examples of **nitro(1-4C)alkyl** include nitromethyl, 1-nitroethyl, 2-nitroethyl and 3-nitropropyl; examples of **amino(1-4C)alkyl** include aminomethyl, 1-aminoethyl, 2-aminoethyl and 3-aminopropyl; examples of **cyano(1-4C)alkyl** include
- 30 cyanomethyl, 1-cyanoethyl, 2-cyanoethyl and 3-cyanopropyl; examples of **(1-4C)alkanesulfonamido** include methanesulfonamido and ethanesulfonamido; examples of **(1-4C)alkylaminosulfonyl** include methylaminosulfonyl and ethylaminosulfonyl; and examples of **di-(1-4C)alkylaminosulfonyl** include dimethylaminosulfonyl,

diethylaminosulfonyl and N-methyl-N-ethylaminosulfonyl; examples of (1-4C)alkanesulfonyloxy include methylsulfonyloxy, ethylsulfonyloxy and propylsulfonyloxy; examples of (1-4C)alkanoyloxy include formyloxy, acetoxy, propanoyloxy and butanoyloxy; examples of (2-4C)alkanoyloxy include acetoxy, propanoyloxy and butanoyloxy; examples of (1-4C)alkylaminocarbonyl include methylaminocarbonyl and ethylaminocarbonyl; examples of di((1-4C)alkyl)aminocarbonyl include dimethylaminocarbonyl and diethylaminocarbonyl; examples of (3-8C)cycloalkyl include cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl; examples of (4-7C)cycloalkyl include cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl and cyclohexyl; examples of di(N-(1-4C)alkyl)aminomethylimino include dimethylaminomethylimino and diethylaminomethylimino.

Particular values for AR2 include, for example, for those AR2 containing one heteroatom, furan, pyrrole, thiophene; for those AR2 containing one to four N atoms, pyrazole, imidazole, pyridine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, pyridazine, 1,2,3- & 1,2,4-triazole and tetrazole; for those AR2 containing one N and one O atom, oxazole, isoxazole and oxazine; for those AR2 containing one N and one S atom, thiazole and isothiazole; for those AR2 containing two N atoms and one S atom, 1,2,4- and 1,3,4-thiadiazole.

Particular examples of AR2a include, for example, dihydropyrrole (especially 2,5-dihydropyrrol-4-yl) and tetrahydropyridine (especially 1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyrid-4-yl).

Particular examples of AR2b include, for example, tetrahydrofuran, pyrrolidine, morpholine (preferably morpholino), thiomorpholine (preferably thiomorpholino), piperazine (preferably piperazino), imidazoline and piperidine, 1,3-dioxolan-4-yl, 1,3-dioxan-4-yl, 1,3-dioxan-5-yl and 1,4-dioxan-2-yl.

Where optional substituents are listed such substitution is preferably not geminal disubstitution unless stated otherwise. If not stated elsewhere, suitable optional substituents for a particular group are those as stated for similar groups herein.

Preferable optional substituents on Ar2b as 1,3-dioxolan-4-yl, 1,3-dioxan-4-yl, 1,3-dioxan-5-yl or 1,4-dioxan-2-yl are mono- or disubstitution by substituents independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl (including geminal disubstitution), (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkylthio, acetamido, (1-4C)alkanoyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl and phenyl].

Suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable salts include acid addition salts such as methanesulfonate, fumarate, hydrochloride, citrate, maleate, tartrate and (less preferably) hydrobromide. Also suitable are salts formed with phosphoric and sulfuric acid. In another aspect suitable salts are base salts such as an alkali metal salt for example sodium, an alkaline

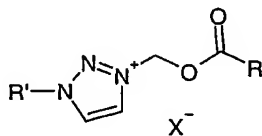
earth metal salt for example calcium or magnesium, an organic amine salt for example triethylamine, morpholine, N-methylpiperidine, N-ethylpiperidine, procaine, dibenzylamine, N,N-dibenzylethylamine, tris-(2-hydroxyethyl)amine, N-methyl d-glucamine and amino acids such as lysine. There may be more than one cation or anion depending on the number of
5 charged functions and the valency of the cations or anions. A preferred pharmaceutically-acceptable salt is the sodium salt.

However, to facilitate isolation of the salt during preparation, salts which are less soluble in the chosen solvent may be preferred whether pharmaceutically-acceptable or not.

The compounds of the formula (I) may be administered in the form of a pro-drug
10 which is broken down in the human or animal body to give a compound of the formula (I). A prodrug may be used to alter or improve the physical and/or pharmacokinetic profile of the parent compound and can be formed when the parent compound contains a suitable group or substituent which can be derivatised to form a prodrug. Examples of pro-drugs include in-vivo hydrolysable esters of a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable
15 salt thereof.

Various forms of prodrugs are known in the art, for examples see:

- a) Design of Prodrugs, edited by H. Bundgaard, (Elsevier, 1985) and Methods in Enzymology, Vol. 42, p. 309-396, edited by K. Widder, *et al.* (Academic Press, 1985);
 - b) A Textbook of Drug Design and Development, edited by Krogsgaard-Larsen and
20 H. Bundgaard, Chapter 5 "Design and Application of Prodrugs", by H. Bundgaard p. 113-191 (1991);
 - c) H. Bundgaard, Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews, 8, 1-38 (1992);
 - d) H. Bundgaard, *et al.*, Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 77, 285 (1988); and
 - e) N. Kakeya, *et al.*, Chem Pharm Bull, 32, 692 (1984).
- 25 Suitable pro-drugs for triazole derivatives include triazoliumsalts eg halides; for example a pro-drug such as:



(Ref: T.Yamazaki *et al.* . 42nd Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, San Diego, 2002; Abstract F820).

30 Suitable pro-drugs of hydroxy groups are glycosides, for example α - or β -glucosides, in the D- or L- configuration.

Further suitable pro-drugs of hydroxyl groups are acyl esters of acetal-carbonate esters of formula RCOOC(R,R')OCO- , where R is (1-4C)alkyl and R' is (1-4C)alkyl or H. Further suitable prodrugs are carbonate and carbamate esters RCOO- and RNHCOO- .

An in-vivo hydrolysable ester of a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-
5 acceptable salt thereof containing carboxy or hydroxy group is, for example, a pharmaceutically-acceptable ester which is hydrolysed in the human or animal body to produce the parent acid or alcohol.

Suitable pharmaceutically-acceptable esters for carboxy include (1-6C)alkoxymethyl esters for example methoxymethyl, (1-6C)alkanoyloxymethyl esters for example
10 pivaloyloxymethyl, phthalidyl esters, (3-8C)cycloalkoxycarbonyloxy(1-6C)alkyl esters for example 1-cyclohexylcarbonyloxyethyl; 1,3-dioxolan-2-onylmethyl esters for example 5-methyl-1,3-dioxolan-2-ylmethyl; and (1-6C)alkoxycarbonyloxyethyl esters for example 1-methoxycarbonyloxyethyl and may be formed at any carboxy group in the compounds of this invention.

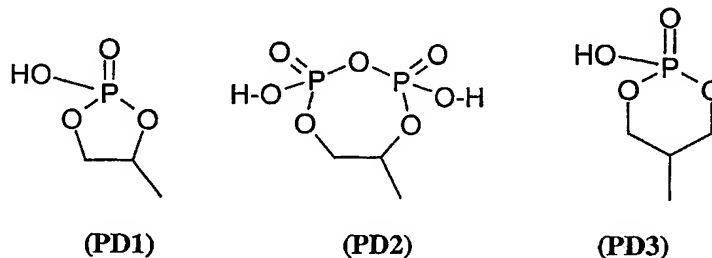
15 An in-vivo hydrolysable ester of a compound of the invention or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof containing a hydroxy group or groups includes inorganic esters such as phosphate esters (including phosphoramidic cyclic esters) and α -acyloxyalkyl ethers and related compounds which as a result of the in-vivo hydrolysis of the ester breakdown to give the parent hydroxy group/s. Examples of α -acyloxyalkyl ethers include acetoxymethoxy and
20 2,2-dimethylpropionyloxymethoxy. A selection of in-vivo hydrolysable ester forming groups for hydroxy include (1-10C)alkanoyl, benzoyl, phenylacetyl and substituted benzoyl and phenylacetyl, (1-10C)alkoxycarbonyl (to give alkyl carbonate esters), di-(1-4C)alkylcarbamoyl and N-(di-(1-4C)alkylaminoethyl)-N-(1-4C)alkylcarbamoyl (to give carbamates), di-(1-4C)alkylaminoacetyl, carboxy(2-5C)alkylcarbonyl and carboxyacetyl.
25 Examples of ring substituents on phenylacetyl and benzoyl include chloromethyl or aminomethyl, (1-4C)alkylaminomethyl and di-((1-4C)alkyl)aminomethyl, and morpholino or piperazino linked from a ring nitrogen atom via a methylene linking group to the 3- or 4-position of the benzoyl ring. Other interesting in-vivo hydrolysable esters include, for example, $\text{R}^{\text{A}}\text{C(O)O(1-6C)alkyl-CO-}$ (wherein R^{A} is for example, optionally substituted
30 benzyloxy-(1-4C)alkyl, or optionally substituted phenyl; suitable substituents on a phenyl group in such esters include, for example, 4-(1-4C)piperazino-(1-4C)alkyl, piperazino-(1-4C)alkyl and morpholino-(1-4C)alkyl.

Further suitable in-vivo hydrolysable esters are those formed from amino acids. For

examples, esters formed by reaction of a hydroxy group of a compound with the carboxylic acid of an amino acid. By the term "amino acid" herein we mean any α - or other amino substituted acid, naturally occurring or otherwise ie. non-naturally occurring, and derivatives thereof such as those formed by substitution (for example by alkylation on the nitrogen of the amino group). The use of either a natural or a non-natural amino acid represent particular and independent aspects of the invention. Examples of suitable α - amino acids and derivatives thereof, are valine, leucine, iso-leucine, N-methyl isoleucine, N-tert-butyl-isoleucine, lysine, glycine, N-methylglycine, N,N-dimethyl glycine, alanine, glutamine, asparagine, proline, and phenylalanine. In one embodiment, preferred amino acids are naturally occurring α -amino acids and N-alkylated derivatives thereof.

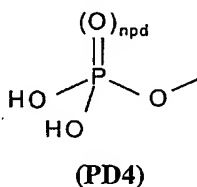
The use of amino acids having neutral and/or basic side chains represent particular and independent aspects of the invention.

Further suitable in-vivo hydrolysable esters of a compound of the formula (I) are described as follows. For example, a 1,2-diol may be cyclised to form a cyclic ester of formula (PD1) or a pyrophosphate of formula (PD2), and a 1,3-diol may be cyclised to form a cyclic ester of the formula (PD3):



Esters of compounds of formula (I) wherein the HO- function/s in (PD1), (PD2) and (PD3) are protected by (1-4C)alkyl, phenyl or benzyl are useful intermediates for the preparation of such pro-drugs.

Further in-vivo hydrolysable esters include phosphoramidic esters, and also compounds of invention in which any free hydroxy group independently forms a phosphoryl (npd is 1) or phosphiryl (npd is 0) ester of the formula (PD4) :

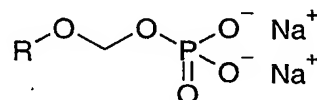


For the avoidance of doubt, phosphono is $-P(O)(OH)_2$; (1-4C)alkoxy(hydroxy)-phosphoryl is a mono-(1-4C)alkoxy derivative of $-O-P(O)(OH)_2$; and di-(1-4C)alkoxyphosphoryl is a di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivative of $-O-P(O)(OH)_2$.

Useful intermediates for the preparation of such esters include compounds containing
 5 a group/s of formula (PD4) in which either or both of the $-OH$ groups in (PD4) is independently protected by (1-4C)alkyl (such compounds also being interesting compounds in their own right), phenyl or phenyl-(1-4C)alkyl (such phenyl groups being optionally substituted by 1 or 2 groups independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl, nitro, halo and (1-4C)alkoxy).

Thus, prodrugs containing groups such as (PD1), (PD2), (PD3) and (PD4) may be prepared by reaction of a compound of invention containing suitable hydroxy group/s with a suitably protected phosphorylating agent (for example, containing a chloro or dialkylamino leaving group), followed by oxidation (if necessary) and deprotection.

Other suitable prodrugs include phosphonooxymethyl ethers and their salts, for
 15 example a prodrug of $R-OH$ such as:



When a compound of invention contains a number of free hydroxy groups, those groups not being converted into a prodrug functionality may be protected (for example, using
 20 a t-butyl-dimethylsilyl group), and later deprotected. Also, enzymatic methods may be used to selectively phosphorylate or dephosphorylate alcohol functionalities.

Where pharmaceutically-acceptable salts of an in-vivo hydrolysable ester may be formed this is achieved by conventional techniques. Thus, for example, compounds containing a group of formula (PD1), (PD2), (PD3) and/or (PD4) may ionise (partially or
 25 fully) to form salts with an appropriate number of counter-ions. Thus, by way of example, if an in-vivo hydrolysable ester prodrug of a compound of invention contains two (PD4) groups, there are four $HO-P$ - functionalities present in the overall molecule, each of which may form an appropriate salt (i.e. the overall molecule may form, for example, a mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-sodium salt).

When a compound of formula (I) contains a number of free hydroxy group, those groups not being converted into a prodrug functionality may be protected (for example, using

a t-butyl-dimethylsilyl group), and later deprotected. Also, enzymatic methods may be used to selectively phosphorylate or dephosphorylate alcohol functionalities.

Other interesting in-vivo hydrolysable esters include, for example, those in which R_c is defined by, for example, R¹⁴C(O)O(1-6C)alkyl-CO- (wherein R¹⁴ is for example, benzyloxy-(1-4C)alkyl, or phenyl). Suitable substituents on a phenyl group in such esters include, for example, 4-(1-4C)piperazino-(1-4C)alkyl, piperazino-(1-4C)alkyl and morpholino-(1-4C)alkyl.

Where pharmaceutically-acceptable salts of an in-vivo hydrolysable ester may be formed this is achieved by conventional techniques. Thus, for example, compounds containing a group of formula (PD1), (PD2) and/or (PD3) may ionise (partially or fully) to form salts with an appropriate number of counter-ions. Thus, by way of example, if an in-vivo hydrolysable ester prodrug of a compound of formula (I) contains two (PD3) groups, there are four HO-P- functionalities present in the overall molecule, each of which may form an appropriate salt (i.e. the overall molecule may form, for example, a mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-sodium salt).

In one aspect, suitable pro-drugs of the invention are in-vivo hydrolysable esters such as (1-4C)alkyl esters; (1-4C)alkyl esters substituted with (1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy(1-4C)alkoxy, carboxy, (1-4C)alkyl esters, amino, (1-4C)alkylamino, di(1-4C)alkylamino, tri(1-4C)alkylamino (thereby containing a quaternised nitrogen atom), aminocarbonyl, carbamates, amides or heterocyclyl groups (for example, an ester formed by reaction of a hydroxy group in a compound of formula (I) with methoxy acetic acid, methoxypropionic acid, adipic acid dimethylester, 4-dimethylaminobutanoic acid, 2-methylaminobutanoic acid, 5-amino pentanoic acid, β-alanine, *N,N*-diethylalanine, valine, leucine, iso-leucine, *N*-methyl isoleucine, *N*-tert-butyl-isoleucine, lysine, glycine, *N,N*-dimethyl glycine, alanine, sarcosine, glutamine, asparagine, proline, phenylalanine, nicotinic acid, nicotinic acid -*N*-oxide, pyrimidine-carboxylic acid (for example pyrimidine-5-carboxylic acid), pyrazine-carboxylic acid (for example pyrazine-2-carboxylic acid), or piperidine-4-carboxylic acid); (3-6C)cycloalkyl esters (optionally substituted by a (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy or carboxy group); carbonates (for example (1-4C)alkylcarbonates and such carbonates substituted by (1-4C)alkoxy or di(1-4C)alkylamino); sulfates; phosphates and phosphate esters; and carbamates; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Further suitable pro-drugs are those formed by reaction of a hydroxy group in a compound of formula (I) with carbonates, particularly alkoxysubstituted alkyl carbonates such

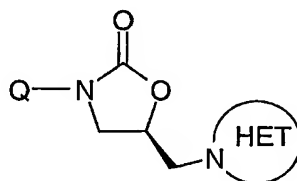
as methoxypropylcarbonate.

Further suitable pro-drugs are esters formed by reaction of a hydroxy group in a compound of formula (I) with methoxy acetic acid, methoxypropionic acid, adipic acid momethylester, 4-dimethylaminobutanoic acid, 2-methylaminobutanoic acid, 5-amino pentanoic acid, β -alanine, *N,N*-diethylalanine, valine, leucine, iso-leucine, *N*-methyl isoleucine, *N*-tert-butyl-isoleucine, lysine, glycine, *N,N*-dimethyl glycine, alanine, sarcosine, glutamine, asparagine, proline, phenylalanine, nicotinic acid, nicotinic acid -*N*-oxide, pyrimidine-5-carboxylic acid, pyrazine-2-carboxylic acid, or piperidine-4-carboxylic acid, 2-carboxy-cyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Particular compounds of the invention are in-vivo hydrolysable esters formed from amino acids, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Further particular compounds of the invention are in-vivo hydrolysable esters formed from 4-dimethylaminobutanoic acid, 2-methylaminobutanoic acid, 5-amino pentanoic acid, β -alanine, *N,N*-diethylalanine, valine, leucine, iso-leucine, *N*-methyl isoleucine, *N*-tert-butyl-isoleucine, lysine, glycine, *N,N*-dimethyl glycine, alanine, sarcosine, glutamine, asparagine, proline, phenylalanine; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

The compounds of the present invention have a chiral centre at the C-5 position of the oxazolidinone ring. The pharmaceutically active enantiomer is of the formula (IA):



(IA)

The present invention includes the pure enantiomer depicted above or mixtures of the 5(*R*) and 5(*S*) enantiomers, for example a racemic mixture. If a mixture of enantiomers is used, a larger amount (depending upon the ratio of the enantiomers) will be required to achieve the same effect as the same weight of the pharmaceutically active enantiomer. The enantiomer depicted above may be the 5(*R*) or 5(*S*) enantiomer depending on the nature of the N-HET group (for example, when -N-HET is imidazole it is the 5(*S*) enantiomer).

Furthermore, some compounds of the formula (I) may have other chiral centres, for example, certain sulfoxide compounds may be chiral at the sulfur atom. It is to be understood that the invention encompasses all such optical and diastereo-isomers, and racemic mixtures, that possess antibacterial activity. It is well known in the art how to prepare optically-active

forms (for example by resolution of the racemic form by recrystallisation techniques, by chiral synthesis, by enzymatic resolution, by biotransformation or by chromatographic separation) and how to determine antibacterial activity as described hereinafter.

Furthermore, some compounds of the formula (I), for example certain sulfoxide
5 compounds may exist as cis- and trans- isomers. It is to be understood that the invention encompasses all such isomers, and mixtures thereof, that possess antibacterial activity.

The invention relates to all tautomeric forms of the compounds of the formula (I) that possess antibacterial activity.

It is also to be understood that certain compounds of the formula (I) can exist in
10 solvated as well as unsolvated forms such as, for example, hydrated forms. It is to be understood that the invention encompasses all such solvated forms which possess antibacterial activity.

It is also to be understood that certain compounds of the formula (I) may exhibit polymorphism, and that the invention encompasses all such forms which possess antibacterial
15 activity.

As stated before, we have discovered a range of compounds that have good activity against a broad range of Gram-positive pathogens, including organisms known to be resistant to most commonly used antibiotics. They have good physical and/or pharmacokinetic properties.

20 Particularly preferred compounds of the invention comprise a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or an in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, wherein the substituents Q, -N-HET (which may also be described as HET herein), T and other substituents mentioned above have values disclosed hereinbefore, or any of the following values (which may be used where appropriate with any of the definitions and embodiments
25 disclosed hereinbefore or hereinafter):

In one embodiment of the invention are provided compounds of formula (I), in an alternative embodiment are provided pharmaceutically-acceptable salts of compounds of formula (I), in a further alternative embodiment are provided in-vivo hydrolysable esters of compounds of formula (I), and in a further alternative embodiment are provided
30 pharmaceutically-acceptable salts of in-vivo hydrolysable esters of compounds of the formula (I).

Preferably Q is selected from Q1, Q2, Q4 and Q6; especially Q1 and Q2; and most preferably Q is Q1.

In one embodiment T is selected from the groups of formula (TAa1) to (TAa12) defined herein. Particular values of T are groups of formula (TAa9 to TAa12).

In another embodiment T is selected from the groups of formula (TAa1) to (TAa8). Particular values of T are groups of the formula (TAa5) to (TAa8).

5 In a preferred embodiment, T is selected from (TAa1 to TAa4), TAa7 and TAa8. Particular values of T are groups of the formula (TAa1 to TA4).

In another embodiment, T is selected from TAa1, TAa3, TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8. Particular values for T are TAa1, TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8.

Especially preferred is each of these values of T when present in Q1 and Q2,
10 particularly in Q1.

Preferably R^{6h} is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl, more preferably R^{6h} is hydrogen.

In one embodiment R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, cyano, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, -CONRcRv {wherein Rc is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; Rv is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl} and (1-4C)alkyl [optionally substituted with
15 hydroxy, cyano, ORc (wherein Rc is selected from Rc1 and Rc2 as hereinbefore defined), phenyl {optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxy and halo} and (1-4C)alkoxy].

In one embodiment, R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from hydrogen, halo, cyano, (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkanoyl, -CONRcRv {wherein Rc is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl; Rv is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl} and (1-4C)alkyl [optionally substituted with
20 hydroxy, cyano, ORc (wherein Rc is selected from Rc1 and Rc2 as hereinbefore defined), phosphoryl, phenyl {optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxy and halo} and (1-4C)alkoxy];.

In another embodiment, R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from hydrogen, cyano, hydroxy(1-4C)alkyl, cyano(1-4C)alkyl, phosphoryl(1-4C)alkyl, benzyl (optionally substituted on the phenyl ring by one substituent selected from halo, methyl and methoxy), (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkyl substituted with ORc (wherein Rc is R¹³CO and R¹³ is selected from Rc2b), (1-4C)alkanoyl and (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl.

In a further embodiment, R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from hydrogen, cyano, hydroxymethyl, cyanomethyl, phosphorylmethyl, methoxybenzyl, methyl, formyl and
30 ethoxycarbonyl.

In a preferred embodiment, R^{4h} is selected from methyl, cyano, formyl, ethoxycarbonyl, hydroxymethyl and phosphorylmethyl; and R^{5h} is selected from hydrogen,

methyl, methoxybenzyl and cyanomethyl. When R^{4h} and R^{5h} are both present (that is, in TAA5) R^{5h} is preferably hydrogen or methyl.

When R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from optionally substituted (as defined) (1-4C)alkyl, preferably there are one or two substituents, most especially just one
 5 substituent; and when the optional substituent is -CONRcRv or -NRcRv, Rc is preferably hydrogen, (1-4C)alkyl or (1-4C)alkanoyl.

In a further preferred embodiment, R^{4h} is (1-4C)alkyl substituted with hydroxy and with ORc, where Rc is selected from any of the definitions for Rc given hereinbefore or hereinafter, particularly those definitions for Rc in aspects (c) to (g) below.

10 The above preferred values of (TAA) are particularly preferred when present in Q1 or Q2, especially Q1. Most preferable is (TAA1) with preferable R^{4h} substituents as hereinbefore defined.

Preferable values for other substituents (which may be used where appropriate with any of the definitions and embodiments disclosed hereinbefore or hereinafter) are :-

- 15 (a) -N-HET is preferably of formula (Ic), (Id) or (If).
- (b) In one aspect preferably one of R² and R³ is hydrogen and the other fluoro. In another aspect both R² and R³ are fluoro.
- (c) In one aspect Rc is R¹³CO- and R¹³ is selected from (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxy(1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkyl (optionally substituted by one or two hydroxy groups, or by
 20 a (1-4C)alkanoyl group), (1-4C)alkylamino, dimethylamino(1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkoxymethyl, (1-4C)alkanoylmethyl, (1-4C)alkanoyloxy(1-4C)alkyl, (1-5C)alkoxy and 2-cyanoethyl.
- (d) In another aspect Rc is R¹³CO- and R¹³ is (1-4C)alkyl substituted with one substituent selected from (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy, phosphoryl [-O-P(O)(OH)₂, and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphiryl
 25 [-O-P(OH)₂ and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphonate [phosphono, -P(O)(OH)₂, and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], phosphinate [-P(OH)₂ and mono- and di-(1-4C)alkoxy derivatives thereof], (1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl, (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl and (1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxy-(1-4C)alkoxycarbonyl.
- (e) In a further aspect R¹³ is selected from 1,2-dihydroxyethyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl,
 30 1,2,3-trihydroxyprop-1-yl, methoxycarbonyl, hydroxymethyl, methyl, methylamino, dimethylaminomethyl, methoxymethyl, acetoxymethyl, methoxy, methylthio, naphthyl, tert-butoxy and 2-cyanoethyl.

(f) In a further aspect R^{13} is selected from 1,2-dihydroxyethyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl, and 1,2,3-trihydroxyprop-1-yl.

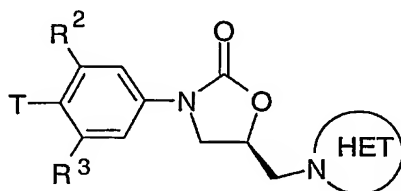
(g) In another aspect preferably R^{13} is hydrogen, (1-10C)alkyl [optionally substituted by one or more hydroxy] or $R^{14}C(O)O(1-6C)$ alkyl.

5 For compounds of formula (I) preferred values for R_c are those in group (Rc2) when present in any of the definitions herein containing R_c .

Where the number of optional substituents on a group is not otherwise preferably defined, the preferable number of optional substituents is one.

Especially preferred compounds of the present invention are of the formula

10 (IB):



(IB)

wherein -N-HET is 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl or tetrazol-2-yl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen or fluoro; and

15 T is selected from (TAa1 to TAa4), TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8; or pharmaceutically-acceptable salts or in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof.

Further especially preferred compounds are of the formula (IB)

wherein -N-HET is 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl or tetrazol-2-yl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen or fluoro; and

20 T is selected from TAa1, TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8; or pharmaceutically-acceptable salts or in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof.

Further especially preferred compounds are of the formula (IB)

wherein -N-HET is 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl or tetrazol-2-yl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen or fluoro; and

25 T is selected from TAa1, TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8;

R^{6h} is hydrogen or (1-4C)alkyl;

R^{4h} and R^{5h} are independently selected from hydrogen, cyano, hydroxy(1-4C)alkyl, cyano(1-4C)alkyl, phosphoryl(1-4C)alkyl, benzyl (optionally substituted on the phenyl ring by one substituent selected from halo, methyl and methoxy), (1-4C)alkyl, (1-4C)alkyl substituted

30 with ORc (wherein R_c is $R^{13}CO$ and R^{13} is selected from Rc2b), (1-4C)alkanoyl and (1-

4C)alkoxycarbonyl or pharmaceutically-acceptable salts or in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof.

Further especially preferred compounds are of the formula (IB)

wherein -N-HET is 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl or tetrazol-2-yl;

5 R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen or fluoro;

T is selected from TAa1, TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8;

R^{4h} (1-4C)alkyl substituted with ORc and hydroxy;

or pharmaceutically-acceptable salts or in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof.

Further especially preferred compounds are of the formula (IB)

10 wherein -N-HET is 1,2,3-triazol-1-yl or tetrazol-2-yl;

R^2 and R^3 are independently hydrogen or fluoro; and

T is selected from TAa1, TAa5, TAa7 and TAa8;

R^{6h} is hydrogen or methyl;

R^{4h} is selected from methyl, cyano, formyl, ethoxycarbonyl, hydroxymethyl and

15 phosphorylmethyl;

R^{5h} is selected from hydrogen, methyl, methoxybenzyl and cyanomethyl;

or pharmaceutically-acceptable salts or in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof.

In all of the above aspects and preferred compounds of formula (IB), in-vivo

20 hydrolysable esters are preferred where appropriate, especially phosphoryl esters (as defined by formulae (PD1) – (PD4) with npd as 1).

In all of the above definitions the preferred compounds are as shown in formula (IA), i.e. the pharmaceutically active enantiomer.

Particular compounds of the present invention include each one of the Examples, in

25 particular Example No. 1. Each one of the Examples provides a further independent aspect of the invention.

Process section :

In a further aspect the present invention provides a process for preparing a compound

30 of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or an in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof.

It will be appreciated that during certain of the following processes certain substituents may require protection to prevent their undesired reaction. The skilled chemist will appreciate

when such protection is required, and how such protecting groups may be put in place, and later removed.

For examples of protecting groups see one of the many general texts on the subject, for example, 'Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis' by Greene and Wuts (publisher: John Wiley & Sons). Protecting groups may be removed by any convenient method as described in the literature or known to the skilled chemist as appropriate for the removal of the protecting group in question, such methods being chosen so as to effect removal of the protecting group with minimum disturbance of groups elsewhere in the molecule.

Thus, if reactants include, for example, groups such as amino, carboxy or hydroxy it may be desirable to protect the group in some of the reactions mentioned herein.

A suitable protecting group for an amino or alkylamino group is, for example, an acyl group, for example an alkanoyl group such as acetyl, an alkoxycarbonyl group, for example a methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl or *t*-butoxycarbonyl group, an arylmethoxycarbonyl group, for example benzyloxycarbonyl, or an aroyl group, for example benzoyl. The deprotection conditions for the above protecting groups necessarily vary with the choice of protecting group. Thus, for example, an acyl group such as an alkanoyl or alkoxycarbonyl group or an aroyl group may be removed for example, by hydrolysis with a suitable base such as an alkali metal hydroxide, for example lithium or sodium hydroxide. Alternatively an acyl group such as a *t*-butoxycarbonyl group may be removed, for example, by treatment with a suitable acid as hydrochloric, sulfuric or phosphoric acid or trifluoroacetic acid and an arylmethoxycarbonyl group such as a benzyloxycarbonyl group may be removed, for example, by hydrogenation over a catalyst such as palladium-on-carbon, or by treatment with a Lewis acid for example boron tris(trifluoroacetate). A suitable alternative protecting group for a primary amino group is, for example, a phthaloyl group which may be removed by treatment with an alkylamine, for example dimethylaminopropylamine, or with hydrazine.

A suitable protecting group for a hydroxy group is, for example, an acyl group, for example an alkanoyl group such as acetyl, an aroyl group, for example benzoyl, or an arylmethyl group, for example benzyl. The deprotection conditions for the above protecting groups will necessarily vary with the choice of protecting group. Thus, for example, an acyl group such as an alkanoyl or an aroyl group may be removed, for example, by hydrolysis with a suitable base such as an alkali metal hydroxide, for example lithium or sodium hydroxide. Alternatively an arylmethyl group such as a benzyl group may be removed, for example, by hydrogenation over a catalyst such as palladium-on-carbon.

A suitable protecting group for a carboxy group is, for example, an esterifying group, for example a methyl or an ethyl group which may be removed, for example, by hydrolysis with a base such as sodium hydroxide, or for example a *t*-butyl group which may be removed, for example, by treatment with an acid, for example an organic acid such as trifluoroacetic
5 acid, or for example a benzyl group which may be removed, for example, by hydrogenation over a catalyst such as palladium-on-carbon.

Resins may also be used as a protecting group.

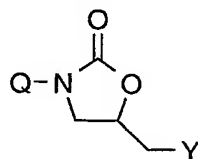
The protecting groups may be removed at any convenient stage in the synthesis using conventional techniques well known in the chemical art.

10 A compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof, may be prepared by any process known to be applicable to the preparation of chemically-related compounds. Such processes, when used to prepare a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof, are provided as a further feature of the invention and are illustrated by the
15 following representative examples. Necessary starting materials may be obtained by standard procedures of organic chemistry (see, for example, Advanced Organic Chemistry (Wiley-Interscience), Jerry March). The preparation of such starting materials is described within the accompanying non-limiting Examples (in which, for example, 3,5-difluorophenyl, 3-fluorophenyl and (des-fluoro)phenyl containing intermediates may all be prepared by
20 analogous procedures; or by alternative procedures - for example, the preparation of (T group)-(fluoro)phenyl intermediates by reaction of a (fluoro)phenylstannane with, for example, a pyran or (tetrahydro)pyridine compound, may also be prepared by anion chemistry (see, for example, WO97/30995). Alternatively, necessary starting materials are obtainable by analogous procedures to those illustrated which are within the ordinary skill of an organic
25 chemist. Information on the preparation of necessary starting materials or related compounds (which may be adapted to form necessary starting materials) may also be found in the following Patent and Application Publications, the contents of the relevant process sections of which are hereby incorporated herein by reference : WO 94-13649; WO 98-54161; WO 99-64416; WO 99-64417; WO 00-21960; WO 01-40222.

30 The skilled organic chemist will be able to use and adapt the information contained and referenced within the above references, and accompanying Examples therein and also the Examples herein, to obtain necessary starting materials, and products.

Thus, the present invention also provides that the compounds of the formula (I) and pharmaceutically-acceptable salts and in-vivo hydrolysable esters thereof, can be prepared by a process (a) to (g) as follows (wherein the variables are as defined above unless otherwise stated) :

- 5 (a) by modifying a substituent in, or introducing a new substituent into, the substituent group Q of another compound of formula (I) - for instance by (i) displacement of a functional group from a compound of formula (I) by another functional group, (ii) by oxidation or (iii) reduction of a compound of formula (I), by (iv) addition of a reagent to or (v) elimination of a reagent from a compound of formula (I), by (vi) metathesis of a compound of formula (I) into
 10 a modified compound of formula (I), or by (vii) rearrangement of a compound of formula (I) to an isomeric compound of formula (I) (Scheme I shows two examples drawn from the range of suitable methods); or
 (b) by reaction of a compound of formula (II) :



15

(II)

wherein Y is a displaceable group (which may be preformed, such as chloro or mesylate, or generated in-situ, for example under Mitsunobu conditions) with a compound of the formula (III) :

-N-HET

20

(III)

wherein -N-HET (of formula (Ia) to (If), optionally protected) is HN-HET (free-base form) or ⁻N-HET anion formed from the free base form (Scheme II shows examples drawn from the range of suitable methods); or

- (c) by reaction of a compound of the formula (IV) :

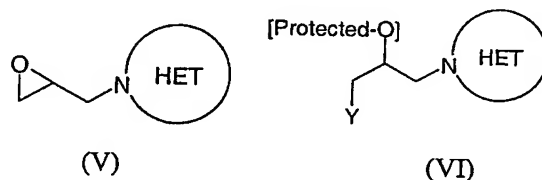
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Q-Z

(IV)

wherein Z is an isocyanate, amine or urethane group with an epoxide of the formula (V) wherein the epoxide group serves as a leaving group at the terminal C-atom and as a protected hydroxy group at the internal C-atom; or with a related compound of formula (VI) where

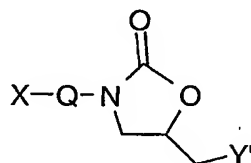
the hydroxy group at the internal C-atom is conventionally protected e.g. with an acetyl group and where the leaving group Y at the terminal C-atom is a conventional leaving group e.g. a chloro- or mesyloxy-group.



5

(Scheme III shows examples drawn from the range of suitable methods), or

(d) (i) by coupling, using catalysis by transition metals such as palladium(0), of a compound of formula (VII) :



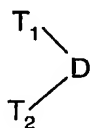
(VII)

10

wherein Y' is a group -N-HET as hereinbefore defined, X is a replaceable substituent - such as chloride, bromide, iodide, or trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy;

with a compound of the formula (VIII), or an analogue thereof, which is suitable to give a T substituent as defined by (TAa1-TAa12) in which the link is via an sp^2 carbon atom ($D =$

15 $CH=C-Lg$ where Lg is a leaving group such as chloride, bromide, iodide, or trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy; or as in the case of reactions carried out under Heck reaction conditions Lg may also be hydrogen)

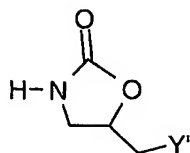


(VIII)

20 where T_1 and T_2 may be the same or different and comprise a precursor to a ring of type T as hereinbefore defined, or T_1 and T_2 may together with D form a ring of type T as hereinbefore defined (Scheme IV shows examples drawn from the range of suitable methods);

(d) (ii) by coupling, using catalysis by transition metals such as palladium(0), of a compound of formula (VIIA):

- 26 -

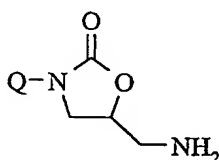
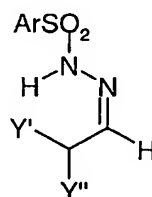


(VIIA)

wherein Y' is a group HET as hereinbefore defined, with a compound

[Aryl]-X

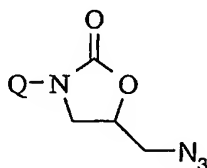
- 5 where X is a replaceable substituent - such as chloride, bromide, iodide, or trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy, or an analogue thereof (Scheme IV shows an example drawn from the range of suitable methods);
- (e) Where N-HET is 1,2,3-triazole there is the additional possibility by cycloaddition via the azide (wherein Y in (II) is azide), with acetylene or masked acetylene (such as a vinyl sulfone, a nitroloefin, or an enamine, or a substituted cyclohexa-1,4-diene derivative (Scheme II shows examples drawn from the range of suitable methods);
- 10 (f) Where N-HET is 1,2,3-triazole there is the additional possibility of synthesis with a compound of formula (IX), namely the arenesulfonylhydrazone of acetaldehyde, by reaction of a compound of formula (II) where Y = NH₂ (primary amine), as illustrated in Scheme V.

(II : Y = NH₂)

(IX)

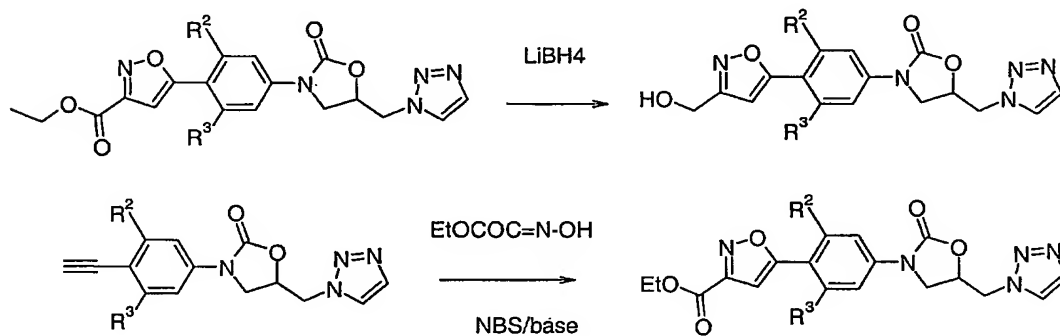
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- (g) Where N-HET is 1,2,3-triazole there is the additional possibility of regioselective synthesis by cycloaddition via the azide (wherein Y in (II) is azide) with acetylene using Cu(I) catalysis in e.g. aqueous alcoholic solution at ambient temperatures to give the N-1,2,3-
- 20 triazole, as illustrated in Scheme VI.

(II : Y = N₃)

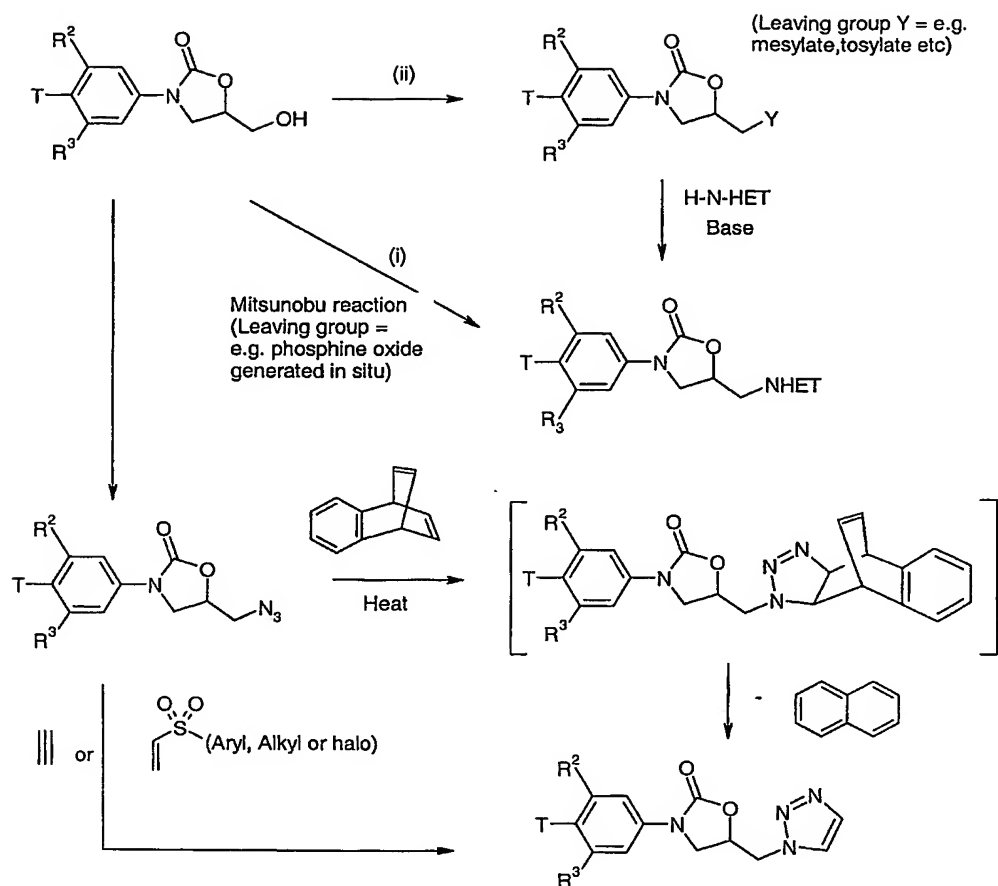
and thereafter if necessary: (i) removing any protecting groups; (ii) forming a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt; (iii) forming an in-vivo hydrolysable ester.

The main synthetic routes are illustrated in Schemes (I) to (VI) below (with Q as phenyl, and T, R², R³, and A defined with reference to analogous substituents defined elsewhere herein). The compounds of the invention may be prepared by analogous chemistry adapted from these Schemes. Schemes (II) and (VI) also show the preparation of 1,2,3-
5 triazoles via the azide (prepared from the relevant hydroxy compound) and the amine (prepared e.g. from the azide) respectively.

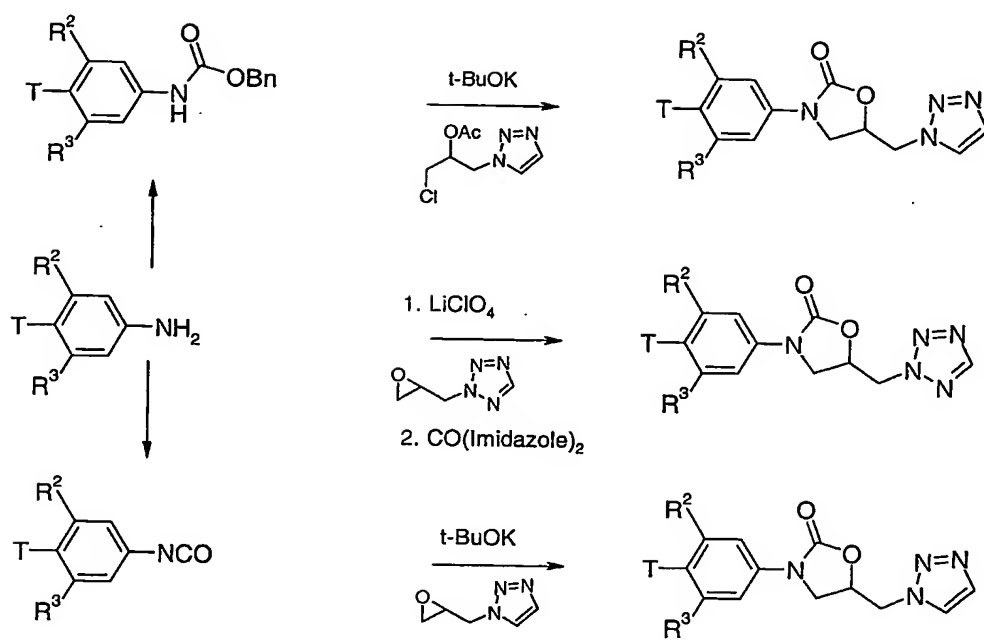


Scheme I

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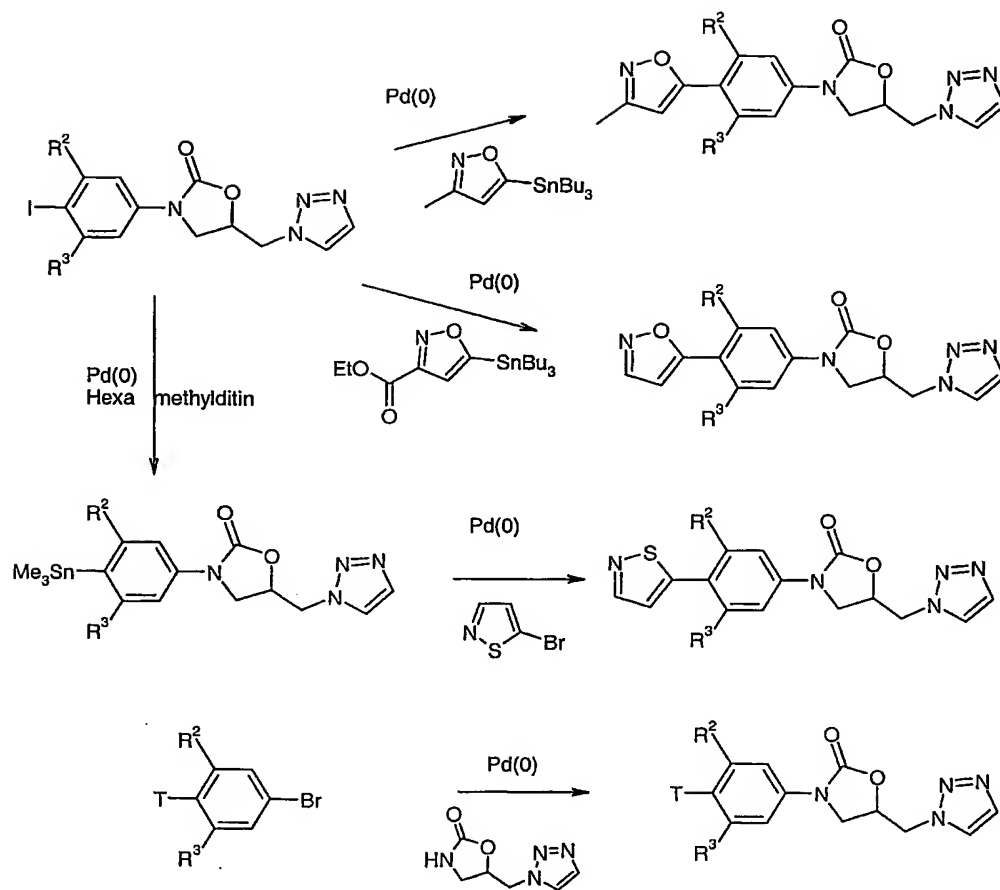


Scheme II

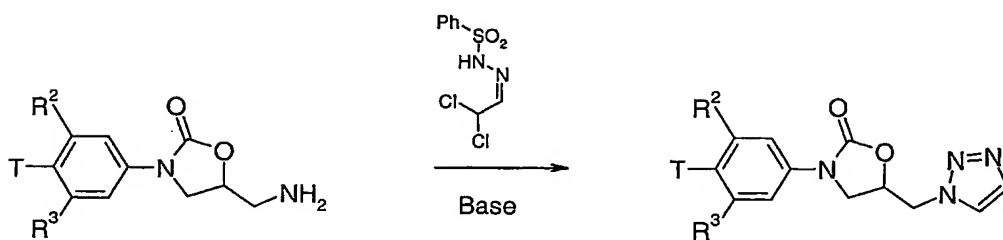


Scheme III

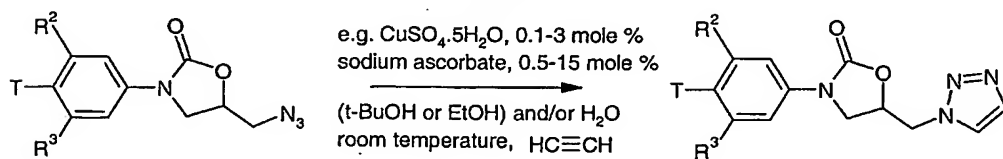
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Scheme IV



Scheme V



Scheme VI

Deprotection, salt formation or in-vivo hydrolysable ester formation may each be provided as a specific final process step.

The N-linked heterocycle can of course be prepared early in the overall synthesis,
5 and then other functional groups changed.

Where Y is a displaceable group, suitable values for Y are for example, a halogeno or sulfonyloxy group, for example a chloro, bromo, methanesulfonyloxy or toluene-4-sulfonyloxy group.

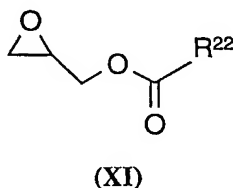
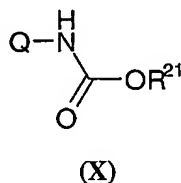
General guidance on reaction conditions and reagents may be obtained in Advanced
10 Organic Chemistry, 4th Edition, Jerry March (publisher : J.Wiley & Sons), 1992. Necessary starting materials may be obtained by standard procedures of organic chemistry, such as described in this process section, in the Examples section or by analogous procedures within the ordinary skill of an organic chemist. Certain references are also provided which describe the preparation of certain suitable starting materials, for example International Patent
15 Application Publication No. WO 97/37980, the contents of which are incorporated here by reference. Processes analogous to those described in the references may also be used by the ordinary organic chemist to obtain necessary starting materials.

(a) Methods for converting substituents into other substituents are known in the art. For example an alkylthio group may be oxidised to an alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl group, a cyano
20 group reduced to an amino group, a nitro group reduced to an amino group, a hydroxy group alkylated to a methoxy group, a hydroxy group thiomethylated to an arylthiomethyl or a heteroarylthiomethyl group (see, for example, Tet.Lett., 585, 1972), a carbonyl group converted to a thiocarbonyl group (eg. using Lawesson's reagent) or a bromo group converted to an alkylthio group. It is also possible to convert one Rc group into another Rc group as a
25 final step in the preparation of a compound of the formula (I), for example, acylation of a group of formula (TC5) wherein Rc is hydrogen.

(b)(i) Reaction (b)(i) (in which Y is initially hydroxy) is performed under Mitsunobu conditions, for example, in the presence of tri-n-butylphosphine and diethyl azodicarboxylate (DEAD) in an organic solvent such as THF, and in the temperature range 0°C - 60°C, but
30 preferably at ambient temperature. Details of Mitsunobu reactions are contained in Tet. Letts., 31, 699, (1990); The Mitsunobu Reaction, D.L.Hughes, Organic Reactions, 1992, Vol.42, 335-656 and Progress in the Mitsunobu Reaction, D.L.Hughes, Organic Preparations and Procedures International, 1996, Vol.28, 127-164.

Compounds of the formula (II) wherein Y is hydroxy may be obtained as described in the references cited herein (particularly in the section proceeding the discussion of protecting groups), for example, by reacting a compound of the formula (X) with a compound of formula (XI):

5



10 wherein R^{21} is (1-6C)alkyl or benzyl and R^{22} is (1-4C)alkyl or $-S(O)_n(1-4C)alkyl$ where n is 0, 1 or 2. Preferably R^{22} is (1-4C)alkyl.

In particular, compounds of the formula (II), (X) and (XI) may be prepared by the skilled man, for example as described in International Patent Application Publication Nos. WO95/07271, WO97/27188, WO 97/30995, WO 98/01446 and WO 98/01447, the contents of
15 which are hereby incorporated by reference, and by analogous processes.

If not commercially available, compounds of the formula (III) may be prepared by procedures which are selected from standard chemical techniques, techniques which are analogous to the synthesis of known, structurally similar compounds, or techniques which are analogous to the procedures described in the Examples. For example, standard chemical
20 techniques are as described in Houben Weyl, Methoden der Organische Chemie, E8a, Pt.I (1993), 45-225, B.J.Wakefield.

(b)(ii) Reactions (b)(ii) are performed conveniently in the presence of a suitable base such as, for example, an alkali or alkaline earth metal carbonate, alkoxide or hydroxide, for example sodium carbonate or potassium carbonate, or, for example, an organic amine base such as, for
25 example, pyridine, 2,6-lutidine, collidine, 4-dimethylaminopyridine, triethylamine, morpholine or diazabicyclo-[5.4.0]undec-7-ene, the reaction is also preferably carried out in a suitable inert solvent or diluent, for example methylene chloride, acetonitrile, tetrahydrofuran, 1,2-dimethoxyethane, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, *N,N*-dimethylacetamide, *N*-methylpyrrolidin-2-one or dimethylsulfoxide at and at a temperature in the range 25-60°C.

When Y is chloro, the compound of the formula (II) may be formed by reacting a compound of the formula (II) wherein Y is hydroxy (hydroxy compound) with a chlorinating agent. For example, by reacting the hydroxy compound with thionyl chloride, in a temperature range of ambient temperature to reflux, optionally in a chlorinated solvent such as dichloromethane or by reacting the hydroxy compound with carbon tetrachloride/triphenyl phosphine in dichloromethane, in a temperature range of 0°C to ambient temperature. A compound of the formula (II) wherein Y is chloro or iodo may also be prepared from a compound of the formula (II) wherein Y is mesylate or tosylate, by reacting the latter compound with lithium chloride or lithium iodide and crown ether, in a suitable organic solvent such as THF, in a temperature range of ambient temperature to reflux

When Y is (1-4C)alkanesulfonyloxy or tosylate the compound (II) may be prepared by reacting the hydroxy compound with (1-4C)alkanesulfonyl chloride or tosyl chloride in the presence of a mild base such as triethylamine or pyridine.

When Y is a phosphoryl ester (such as $(\text{PhO})_2\text{-P}(\text{O})\text{-O-}$) or $\text{Ph}_2\text{-P}(\text{O})\text{-O-}$ the compound (II) may be prepared from the hydroxy compound under standard conditions.

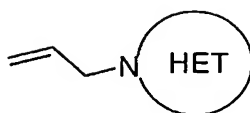
(c) Reaction (c) is performed under conditions analogous to those described in the following references which disclose how suitable and analogous starting materials may be obtained.

Reaction (c) is especially suitable for compounds in which HET-H is a weakly acidic heterocycle (such as, for example, triazole or tetrazole).

Compounds of the formula Q-Z wherein Z is an isocyanate may be prepared by the skilled chemist, for example by analogous processes to those described in Walter A. Gregory et al in J. Med. Chem. 1990, 33, 2569-2578 and Chung-Ho Park et al in J. Med. Chem. 1992, 35, 1156-1165. Compounds of the formula Q-Z wherein Z is a urethane may be prepared by the skilled chemist, for example by analogous processes to those described in International Patent Application Publication Nos. WO 97/30995 and WO 97/37980.

A similar reaction to reaction (c) may be performed in which Q-Z wherein Z is a amine group is reacted with the epoxide (optionally in the presence of an organic base), and the product is reacted with, for example, phosgene to form the oxazolidinone ring. Such reactions and the preparation of starting materials in within the skill of the ordinary chemist with reference to the above-cited documents disclosing analogous reactions and preparations.

Epoxides of the formula (V) may be prepared from the corresponding compound of formula (XII):



(XII)

Certain such epoxide and alkene intermediates are novel and are provided as a further feature of the invention. Asymmetric epoxidation may be used to give the desired optical isomer.

- 5 Compounds of formula (VI) may be obtained from epoxides of formula (V); alternatively compounds of formula (VI) may be used as precursors for epoxides of formula (V) according to the relative ease of synthesis in each case. The skilled chemist will appreciate that the epoxides of formula (V) and the compounds of formula (VI) are structurally equivalent and the choice between them will be made on the grounds of availability, convenience, and cost.

10

- (d) The transition metal catalysed coupling reaction to form a C-C or N-C bond from the corresponding aryl derivatives and the arenes, heteroarenes, olefins, alkynes, or amines is performed under conventional conditions (see for instance J.K. Stille, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Eng.*, 1986, 25, 509-524; N. Miyaura and A. Suzuki, *Chem. Rev.*, 1995, 95, 22457-2483; D. Baranano, G. Mann, and J.F. Hartwig, *Current Org. Che.*, 1997, 1, 287-305; S.P. Stanforth, *Tetrahedron*, 1998, 54, 263-303). The reaction d (ii) may be conveniently carried out under the conditions described in *Tetrahedron Letters* (2001), 42(22), 3681-3684, or in the analogous conventional conditions described in the above mentioned literature. In such a procedure a preferred variation of X may be bromine.

20

- (e) The cycloaddition reaction to form 1,2,3 triazoles from the corresponding azide is performed under conventional conditions. Compounds of the formula (II) wherein Y is azide may be obtained as described in the references cited herein (particularly in the section proceeding the discussion of protecting groups), for example from the corresponding
- 25 compounds in which Y is hydroxy or mesylate.

- (f) The reaction of amines of formula (II, Y = NH₂) with arenesulfonyl hydrazones to form 1,2,3 triazoles may be carried out as described in the literature (Sakai, Kunikazu; Hida, Nobuko; Kondo and Kiyosi: "Reactions of α -polyhalo ketone tosylhydrazones with sulfide ion and primary amines. Cyclization to 1,2,3-thiadiazoles and 1,2,3-triazoles." *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* (1986), 59(1), 179-83; Sakai, Kunikazu; Tsunemoto, Daiei; Kobori, Takeo; Kondo,
- 30

Kiyoshi; Hida and Nobuko: 1,2,3-Trihetero 5-membered heterocyclic compounds, EP 103840 A2 19840328). The leaving groups Y', Y'' may be chloro or any other group capable of being eliminated from the arenesulfonyl hydrazone during the reaction with the amine. The skilled chemist will also appreciate that a similar reaction may be used to produce other substituted triazoles suitable for incorporation into related processes such as reaction with compounds of formula (IV) in process (c).

g) The reaction of azides of formula (II, Y = N₃) with terminal alkynes using Cu(I) catalysis to give regioselectively 4-substituted 1,2,3-triazole compounds of formula (I) may be carried out as described in the literature (for instance V.V. Rostovtsev, L.G. Green, V.V. Fokin, and K.B. Sharpless, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2002**, *41*, 2596-2599).

The removal of any protecting groups, the formation of a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt and/or the formation of an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester are within the skill of an ordinary organic chemist using standard techniques. Furthermore, details on these steps, for example the preparation of in-vivo hydrolysable ester prodrugs has been provided in the section above on such esters, and in certain of the following non-limiting Examples.

When an optically active form of a compound of the formula (I) is required, it may be obtained by carrying out one of the above procedures using an optically active starting material (formed, for example, by asymmetric induction of a suitable reaction step), or by resolution of a racemic form of the compound or intermediate using a standard procedure, or by chromatographic separation of diastereoisomers (when produced). Enzymatic techniques may also be useful for the preparation of optically active compounds and/or intermediates.

Similarly, when a pure regioisomer of a compound of the formula (I) is required, it may be obtained by carrying out one of the above procedures using a pure regioisomer as a starting material, or by resolution of a mixture of the regioisomers or intermediates using a standard procedure.

According to a further feature of the invention there is provided a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof for use in a method of treatment of the human or animal body by therapy.

According to a further feature of the present invention there is provided a method for producing an antibacterial effect in a warm blooded animal, such as man, in need of such treatment, which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of the present invention, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester

thereof.

The invention also provides a compound of the formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, for use as a medicament; and for use as an anti-bacterial agent; and the use of a compound of the formula (I) of the present invention,
5 or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt, or in-vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the production of an antibacterial effect in a warm blooded animal, such as man.

In order to use a compound of the formula (I), an in-vivo hydrolysable ester or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, including a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of an
10 in-vivo hydrolysable ester, (hereinafter in this section relating to pharmaceutical composition "a compound of this invention") for the therapeutic (including prophylactic) treatment of mammals including humans, in particular in treating infection, it is normally formulated in accordance with standard pharmaceutical practice as a pharmaceutical composition.

Therefore in another aspect the present invention provides a pharmaceutical
15 composition which comprises a compound of the formula (I), an in-vivo hydrolysable ester or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof, including a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt of an in-vivo hydrolysable ester, and a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier.

The compositions of the invention may be in a form suitable for oral use (for example as tablets, lozenges, hard or soft capsules, aqueous or oily suspensions, (lipid) emulsions,
20 dispersible powders or granules, syrups or elixirs), for topical use (for example as creams, ointments, gels, or aqueous or oily solutions or suspensions), for administration by inhalation (for example as a finely divided powder or a liquid aerosol), for administration by insufflation (for example as a finely divided powder) or for parenteral administration (for example as a sterile aqueous or oily solution for intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular or intramuscular
25 dosing or as a suppository for rectal dosing).

The compositions of the invention may be obtained by conventional procedures using conventional pharmaceutical excipients, well known in the art. Thus, compositions intended for oral use may contain, for example, one or more colouring, sweetening, flavouring and/or preservative agents.

30 Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable excipients for a tablet formulation include, for example, inert diluents such as lactose, sodium carbonate, calcium phosphate or calcium carbonate, granulating and disintegrating agents such as corn starch or algenic acid; binding agents such as starch; lubricating agents such as magnesium stearate, stearic acid or talc;

preservative agents such as ethyl or propyl *p*-hydroxybenzoate, and anti-oxidants, such as ascorbic acid. Tablet formulations may be uncoated or coated either to modify their disintegration and the subsequent absorption of the active ingredient within the gastrointestinal tract, or to improve their stability and/or appearance, in either case, using
5 conventional coating agents and procedures well known in the art.

Compositions for oral use may be in the form of hard gelatin capsules in which the active ingredient is mixed with an inert solid diluent, for example, calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate or kaolin, or as soft gelatin capsules in which the active ingredient is mixed with water or an oil such as peanut oil, liquid paraffin, or olive oil.

10 Aqueous suspensions generally contain the active ingredient in finely powdered form together with one or more suspending agents, such as sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, sodium alginate, polyvinyl-pyrrolidone, gum tragacanth and gum acacia; dispersing or wetting agents such as lecithin or condensation products of an alkylene oxide with fatty acids (for example polyoxethylene stearate), or
15 condensation products of ethylene oxide with long chain aliphatic alcohols, for example heptadecaethyleneoxycetanol, or condensation products of ethylene oxide with partial esters derived from fatty acids and a hexitol such as polyoxyethylene sorbitol monooleate, or condensation products of ethylene oxide with long chain aliphatic alcohols, for example heptadecaethyleneoxycetanol, or condensation products of ethylene oxide with partial esters
20 derived from fatty acids and a hexitol such as polyoxyethylene sorbitol monooleate, or condensation products of ethylene oxide with partial esters derived from fatty acids and hexitol anhydrides, for example polyethylene sorbitan monooleate. The aqueous suspensions may also contain one or more preservatives (such as ethyl or propyl *p*-hydroxybenzoate, anti-oxidants (such as ascorbic acid), colouring agents, flavouring agents, and/or sweetening
25 agents (such as sucrose, saccharine or aspartame).

Oily suspensions may be formulated by suspending the active ingredient in a vegetable oil (such as arachis oil, olive oil, sesame oil or coconut oil) or in a mineral oil (such as liquid paraffin). The oily suspensions may also contain a thickening agent such as beeswax, hard paraffin or cetyl alcohol. Sweetening agents such as those set out above, and
30 flavouring agents may be added to provide a palatable oral preparation. These compositions may be preserved by the addition of an anti-oxidant such as ascorbic acid.

Dispersible powders and granules suitable for preparation of an aqueous suspension by the addition of water generally contain the active ingredient together with a dispersing or

wetting agent, suspending agent and one or more preservatives. Suitable dispersing or wetting agents and suspending agents are exemplified by those already mentioned above. Additional excipients such as sweetening, flavouring and colouring agents, may also be present.

5 The pharmaceutical compositions of the invention may also be in the form of oil-in-water emulsions. The oily phase may be a vegetable oil, such as olive oil or arachis oil, or a mineral oil, such as for example liquid paraffin or a mixture of any of these. Suitable emulsifying agents may be, for example, naturally-occurring gums such as gum acacia or gum tragacanth, naturally-occurring phosphatides such as soya bean, lecithin, an esters or partial
10 esters derived from fatty acids and hexitol anhydrides (for example sorbitan monooleate) and condensation products of the said partial esters with ethylene oxide such as polyoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate. The emulsions may also contain sweetening, flavouring and preservative agents.

 Syrups and elixirs may be formulated with sweetening agents such as glycerol,
15 propylene glycol, sorbitol, aspartame or sucrose, and may also contain a demulcent, preservative, flavouring and/or colouring agent.

 The pharmaceutical compositions may also be in the form of a sterile injectable aqueous or oily suspension, which may be formulated according to known procedures using one or more of the appropriate dispersing or wetting agents and suspending agents, which
20 have been mentioned above. A sterile injectable preparation may also be a sterile injectable solution or suspension in a non-toxic parenterally-acceptable diluent or solvent, for example a solution in 1,3-butanediol.

 A pharmaceutical composition to be dosed intravenously may contain advantageously (for example to enhance stability) a suitable bactericide, antioxidant or reducing agent, or a
25 suitable sequestering agent.

 Compositions for administration by inhalation may be in the form of a conventional pressurised aerosol arranged to dispense the active ingredient either as an aerosol containing finely divided solid or liquid droplets. Conventional aerosol propellants such as volatile fluorinated hydrocarbons or hydrocarbons may be used and the aerosol device is conveniently
30 arranged to dispense a metered quantity of active ingredient.

 For further information on formulation the reader is referred to Chapter 25.2 in Volume 5 of Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry (Corwin Hansch; Chairman of Editorial Board), Pergamon Press 1990.

The amount of active ingredient that is combined with one or more excipients to produce a single dosage form will necessarily vary depending upon the host treated and the particular route of administration. For example, a formulation intended for oral administration to humans will generally contain, for example, from 1 mg to 1 g of active agent compounded with an appropriate and convenient amount of excipients which may vary from about 5 to about 98 percent by weight of the total composition. Dosage unit forms will generally contain about 100 mg to about 1g of an active ingredient. For further information on Routes of Administration and Dosage Regimes the reader is referred to Chapter 25.3 in Volume 5 of Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry (Corwin Hansch; Chairman of Editorial Board), Pergamon Press 1990.

A suitable pharmaceutical composition of this invention is one suitable for oral administration in unit dosage form, for example a tablet or capsule which contains between 1mg and 1g of a compound of this invention, preferably between 100mg and 1g of a compound. Especially preferred is a tablet or capsule which contains between 50mg and 800mg of a compound of this invention, particularly in the range 100mg to 500mg.

In another aspect a pharmaceutical composition of the invention is one suitable for intravenous, subcutaneous or intramuscular injection, for example an injection which contains between 0.1% w/v and 50% w/v (between 1mg/ml and 500mg/ml) of a compound of this invention.

Each patient may receive, for example, a daily intravenous, subcutaneous or intramuscular dose of 0.5 mgkg^{-1} to 20 mgkg^{-1} of a compound of this invention, the composition being administered 1 to 4 times per day. In another embodiment a daily dose of 0.5 mgkg^{-1} to 20 mgkg^{-1} of a compound of this invention is administered. The intravenous, subcutaneous and intramuscular dose may be given by means of a bolus injection. Alternatively the intravenous dose may be given by continuous infusion over a period of time. Alternatively each patient may receive a daily oral dose which may be approximately equivalent to the daily parenteral dose, the composition being administered 1 to 4 times per day.

In addition to the compounds of the present invention, the pharmaceutical composition of this invention may also contain (ie through co-formulation) or be co-administered (simultaneously, sequentially or separately) with one or more known drugs selected from other clinically useful antibacterial agents (for example, β -lactams, macrolides, quinolones or aminoglycosides) and/or other anti-infective agents (for example, an antifungal triazole or

amphotericin). These may include carbapenems, for example meropenem or imipenem, to broaden the therapeutic effectiveness. Compounds of this invention may also be co-formulated or co-administered with bactericidal/permeability-increasing protein (BPI) products or efflux pump inhibitors to improve activity against gram negative bacteria and bacteria resistant to antimicrobial agents. . Compounds of this invention may also be co-formulated or co-administered with a vitamin, for example Vitamin B, such as Vitamin B2, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12 and folic acid. Compounds of the invention may also be formulated or co-administered with cyclooxygenase (COX) inhibitors, particularly COX-2 inhibitors.

10 In one aspect of the invention, a compound of the invention is co-formulated with an antibacterial agent which is active against gram-positive bacteria.

In another aspect of the invention, a compound of the invention is co-formulated with an antibacterial agent which is active against gram-negative bacteria.

In another aspect of the invention, a compound of the invention is co-administered with an antibacterial agent which is active against gram-positive bacteria.

In another aspect of the invention, a compound of the invention is co-administered with an antibacterial agent which is active against gram-negative bacteria.

A pharmaceutical composition to be dosed intravenously may contain advantageously (for example to enhance stability) a suitable bactericide, antioxidant or reducing agent, or a suitable sequestering agent.

In the above other, pharmaceutical composition, process, method, use and medicament manufacture features, the alternative and preferred embodiments of the compounds of the invention described herein also apply.

25 **Biological Activity :**

The pharmaceutically-acceptable compounds of the present invention are useful antibacterial agents having a good spectrum of activity in vitro against standard Gram-positive organisms, which are used to screen for activity against pathogenic bacteria. Notably, the pharmaceutically-acceptable compounds of the present invention show activity against enterococci, pneumococci and methicillin resistant strains of S.aureus and coagulase negative staphylococci, together with haemophilus and moraxella strains. The antibacterial spectrum and potency of a particular compound may be determined in a standard test system.

The (antibacterial) properties of the compounds of the invention may also be

demonstrated and assessed in-vivo in conventional tests, for example by oral and/or intravenous dosing of a compound to a warm-blooded mammal using standard techniques.

The following results were obtained on a standard in-vitro test system. The activity is described in terms of the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) determined by the agar-dilution technique with an inoculum size of 10^4 CFU/spot. Typically, compounds are active in the range 0.01 to 256 $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

Staphylococci were tested on agar, using an inoculum of 10^4 CFU/spot and an incubation temperature of 37°C for 24 hours - standard test conditions for the expression of methicillin resistance.

Streptococci and enterococci were tested on agar supplemented with 5% defibrinated horse blood, an inoculum of 10^4 CFU/spot and an incubation temperature of 37°C in an atmosphere of 5% carbon dioxide for 48 hours - blood is required for the growth of some of the test organisms.

For example, the following results were obtained for the compound of Example 1:

15

<u>Organism</u>		<u>MIC ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)</u>
Staphylococcus aureus:	MSQS	0.5
	MRQR	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae		0.25
Moraxella catarrhalis		1
Enterococcus faecium		0.5
MSQS = methicillin sensitive and quinolone sensitive		
MRQR = methicillin resistant and quinolone resistant		

20

25 The activity of the compounds of the invention against MAO-A was tested using a standard in-vitro assay based on human liver enzyme expressed in yeast as described in Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun. 1991, 181, 1084-1088. The compounds of the invention showed decreased MAO-A potency compared with analogues from the known art with C-5 side chains such as acetamidomethyl or hydroxymethyl. When K_i values were measured in such an assay as above, Example 2 showed a K_i value of $19\mu\text{g/ml}$ compared with the acetamide analogue with a K_i value of $6\mu\text{g/ml}$; Example 7 showed a K_i value of $144\mu\text{g/ml}$ compared with the acetamide analogue with K_i value of $34\mu\text{g/ml}$

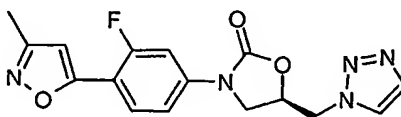
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Certain intermediates and/or Reference Examples described hereinafter within the scope of the invention may also possess useful activity, and are provided as a further feature of the invention.

- 5 The invention is now illustrated but not limited by the following Examples in which unless otherwise stated :-
- (i) evaporations were carried out by rotary evaporation in vacuo and work-up procedures were carried out after removal of residual solids by filtration;
 - (ii) operations were carried out at ambient temperature, that is typically in the range
10 18-26°C and without exclusion of air unless otherwise stated, or unless the skilled person would otherwise work under an inert atmosphere;
 - (iii) column chromatography (by the flash procedure) was used to purify compounds and was performed on Merck Kieselgel silica (Art. 9385) unless otherwise stated;
 - (iv) yields are given for illustration only and are not necessarily the maximum attainable;
 - 15 (v) the structure of the end-products of the invention were generally confirmed by NMR and mass spectral techniques [proton magnetic resonance spectra were generally determined in DMSO-d₆ unless otherwise stated using a Bruker DRX-300 spectrometer operating at a field strength of 300 MHz, or a Bruker DRX-500 spectrometer operating at a field strength of 500 MHz; chemical shifts are reported in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane as
20 an internal standard (δ (delta) scale) and peak multiplicities are shown thus: s, singlet; d, doublet; AB or dd, doublet of doublets; dt, doublet of triplets; dm, doublet of multiplets; t, triplet; m, multiplet; br, broad; fast-atom bombardment (FAB) mass spectral data were generally obtained using a Platform spectrometer (supplied by Micromass) run in electrospray and, where appropriate, either positive ion data or negative ion data were collected];
 - 25 (vi) each intermediate was purified to the standard required for the subsequent stage and was characterised in sufficient detail to confirm that the assigned structure was correct; purity was assessed by HPLC, TLC, or NMR and identity was determined by infra-red spectroscopy (IR), mass spectroscopy or NMR spectroscopy as appropriate;
 - (vii) in which the following abbreviations may be used :-
30 DMF is N,N-dimethylformamide; DMA is N,N-dimethylacetamide; TLC is thin layer chromatography; HPLC is high pressure liquid chromatography; MPLC is medium pressure liquid chromatography; DMSO is dimethylsulfoxide; CDCl₃ is deuterated chloroform; MS is mass spectroscopy; ESP is electrospray; EI is electron impact; CI is

chemical ionisation; EtOAc is ethyl acetate; MeOH is methanol; NOE is Nuclear Overhauser Effect.

Example 1: (5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



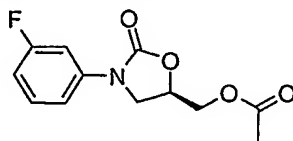
A suspension of (5R)-3-(3-fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 6**, 582 mg, 1.50 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (14 ml) was placed under argon. Bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium (II) chloride (42 mg, 0.060 mmol) was added, followed by the dropwise addition of 5-(tributylstannyl)-3-methylisoxazole (Sakamoto, T. *et al*; *Tetrahedron*, 1991, 47, 5111-5118; 0.84 g, 2.25 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (1 ml). The mixture was heated at 100 °C. After approximately 16 hours, the solution was concentrated under vacuum. The crude material was dissolved in acetonitrile and washed with hexanes (3x). The acetonitrile phase was concentrated under vacuum. Purification by chromatography on silica gel using EtOAc, followed by recrystallization from EtOAc/MeOH gave 256 mg of the title product.

MS (APCI): 344 (MH^+) for $C_{16}H_{14}FN_5O_3$

1H -NMR 500MHz (DMSO- d_6) δ : 2.32 (s, 3H); 3.98 (m, 1H); 4.31(t, 1H); 4.89 (d, 2H); 5.20 (m, 1H); 6.73 (d, 1H); 7.48 (dd, 1H); 7.66 (dd, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 7.93 (t, 1H); 8.20 (s, 1H).

The intermediates for this compound were prepared as follows:

Intermediate 1: Acetic acid (5R)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-2-oxo-oxazolidin-5-ylmethyl ester



(5R)-3-(3-Fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxymethyloxazolidin-2-one (40 g, 0.189 M, see Upjohn WO 94-13649) was suspended by stirring in dry dichloromethane (400 ml) under nitrogen.

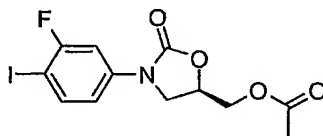
Triethylamine (21 g, 0.208 M) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.6 g, 4.9 mmol) were added,

followed by dropwise addition of acetic anhydride (20.3 g, 0.199 M) over 30 minutes, and stirring continued at ambient temperature for 18 hours. Saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate (250 ml) was added, the organic phase separated, washed with 2% sodium dihydrogen phosphate, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered and evaporated to give the desired product (49.6 g) as an oil.

MS (ESP): 254 (MH^+) for $C_{12}H_{12}FNO_4$

NMR 300 MHz ($CDCl_3$) δ : 2.02 (s, 3H); 3.84 (dd, 1H); 4.16 (t, 1H); 4.25 (dd, 1H); 4.32 (dd, 1H); 4.95 (m, 1H); 6.95 (td, 1H); 7.32 (d, 1H); 7.43 (t, 1H); 7.51 (d, 1H).

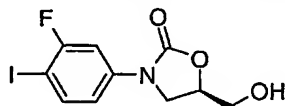
10 Intermediate 2: Acetic acid (5R)-3-(3-fluoro-4-iodo-phenyl)-2-oxo-oxazolidin-5-ylmethyl ester



Acetic acid (5R)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-2-oxo-oxazolidin-5-ylmethyl ester (**Intermediate 1**, 15.2 g, 60 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of chloroform (100 ml) and acetonitrile (100 ml) under nitrogen, and silver trifluoroacetate (16.96 g, 77 mmol) added. Iodine (18.07 g, 71 mmol) was added in portions over 30 minutes to the vigorously stirred solution, and stirring continued at ambient temperature for 18 hours. As reaction was not complete, a further portion of silver trifluoroacetate (2.64 g, 12 mmol) was added and stirring continued for 18 hours. After filtration, the mixture was added to sodium thiosulfate solution (3%, 200 ml) and dichloromethane (200 ml), and the organic phase separated, washed with sodium thiosulfate (200 ml), saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate (200 ml), brine (200 ml), dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered and evaporated. The crude product was suspended in *isohexane* (100 ml), and sufficient diethyl ether added to dissolve out the brown impurity while stirring for 1 hour. Filtration gave the desired product (24.3 g) as a cream solid.

25 MS (ESP): 380 (MH^+) for $C_{12}H_{11}FINO_4$

1H -NMR 300MHz ($DMSO-d_6$) δ : 2.03 (s, 3H); 3.82 (dd, 1H); 4.15 (t, 1H); 4.24 (dd, 1H); 4.30 (dd, 1H); 4.94 (m, 1H); 7.19 (dd, 1H); 7.55 (dd, 1H); 7.84 (t, 1H).

Intermediate 3: (5R)-3-(3-Fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-5-hydroxymethyloxazolidin-2-one

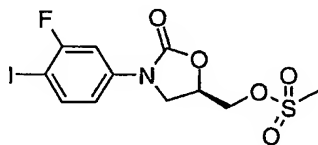
Acetic acid (5R)-3-(3-fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-2-oxo-oxazolidin-5-ylmethyl ester (**Intermediate 2**, 30 g, 79 mmol) was treated with potassium carbonate (16.4 g, 0.119 mmol) in a mixture of methanol (800 ml) and dichloromethane (240 ml) at ambient temperature for 25 minutes, then immediately neutralised by the addition of acetic acid (10 ml) and water (500 ml). The precipitate was filtered, washed with water, and dissolved in dichloromethane (1.2 L), the solution washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate, and dried (magnesium sulfate). Filtration and evaporation gave the desired product (23 g).

10 MS (ESP): 338 (MH⁺) for C₁₀H₉FINO₃

¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ : 3.53 (m, 1H); 3.67 (m, 1H); 3.82 (dd, 1H); 4.07 (t, 1H); 4.70 (m, 1H); 5.20 (t, 1H); 7.21 (dd, 1H); 7.57 (dd, 1H); 7.81 (t, 1H).

Intermediate 4: [(5R)-3-(3-Fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-5-yl]methyl

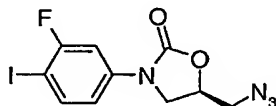
15 methanesulfonate



(5R)-3-(3-Fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 3**, 25.0 g, 74.2 mmol) was stirred in dichloromethane (250 ml) at 0 °C. Triethylamine (10.5 g, 104 mmol) was added followed by methanesulfonyl chloride (11.2 g, 89.0 mmol) and the reaction was stirred overnight, slowly warming to room temperature. The yellow solution was diluted with sodium bicarbonate and the compound was extracted using dichloromethane (3x250 ml). The organic layer was dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered and concentrated to give the desired product as a light yellow solid (30.3 g).

MS (ESP): 416 (MH⁺) for C₁₁H₁₁FINO₅S

25 ¹H-NMR 300MHz (DMSO-d₆): 3.24 (s, 3H); 3.82 (dd, 1H); 4.17 (t, 1H); 4.43-4.52 (m, 2H); 4.99-5.03 (m, 1H); 7.21 (dd, 1H); 7.55 (dd, 1H); 7.83 (t, 1H).

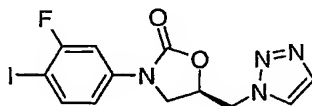
Intermediate 5: (5R)-5-(Azidomethyl)-3-(3-fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one

[(5R)-3-(3-Fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-5-yl]methyl methanesulfonate (**Intermediate 4**, 6.14 g, 14.7 mmol) was dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (50 ml).

- 5 Sodium azide (1.92 g, 29.6 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at 75 °C overnight. The yellow mixture was poured into half-saturated sodium bicarbonate and extracted using ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed three times with water, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered, and concentrated to give the title compound as a yellow solid (4.72 g).

MS (ESP): 363 (MH^+) for $C_{10}H_8FIN_4O_2$

- 10 **¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-*d*₆):** 3.72-3.82 (m, 3H); 4.14 (t, 1H); 4.89-4.94 (m, 1H); 7.22 (dd, 1H); 7.57 (dd, 1H); 7.83 (t, 1H).

Intermediate 6: (5R)-3-(3-Fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one

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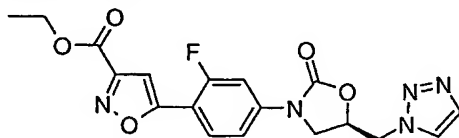
(5R)-5-(Azidomethyl)-3-(3-fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 5**, 30.3 g, 72.9 mmol) was stirred in 1,4-dioxane. Bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene (40.3 g, 437 mmol) was added and the reaction was heated to 100 °C overnight. The brown mixture was filtered and the desired compound was obtained as a light brown solid (14.8 g).

- 20 **MS (ESP):** 389 (MH^+) for $C_{12}H_{10}FIN_4O_2$

¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-*d*₆): 3.90 (dd, 1H); 4.23 (t, 1H); 4.84 (d, 2H); 5.11-5.18 (m, 1H), 7.14 (dd, 1H); 7.49 (dd, 1H); 7.76 (s, 1H); 7.82 (t, 1H); 8.17 (s, 1H).

Example 2: Ethyl 5-{2-fluoro-4-[(5R)-2-oxo-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}isoxazole-3-carboxylate

25



The procedure is identical to that used in Example 1 except (5*R*)-3-(3-fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 6**, 582 mg, 1.50 mmol) and ethyl 5-(tributylstannyl)isoxazole-3-carboxylate (Sakamoto, T. et al., *Tetrahedron*, 1991, 47, 5111-5118); 806 mg, 1.87 mmol) were used as starting materials. The crude product was

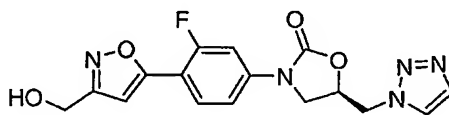
5 purified by chromatography on silica gel using EtOAc, followed by recrystallization from acetone/hexanes to give 175 mg of the title product.

MS (ESP): 402 (MH⁺) for C₁₈H₁₆FN₅O₅

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 1.37 (t, 3H); 4.00 (dd, 1H); 4.32 (t, 1H); 4.42 (q, 2H); 4.88 (d, 2H); 5.22 (m, 1H); 7.16 (d, 1H); 7.52 (dd, 1H); 7.69 (dd, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 8.04 (t, 1H);

10 8.20 (s, 1H).

Example 3: (5*R*)-3-{3-Fluoro-4-[3-(hydroxymethyl)isoxazol-5-yl]phenyl}-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



15 Ethyl 5-{2-fluoro-4-[(5*R*)-2-oxo-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}isoxazole-3-carboxylate (**Example 2**, 0.4 g, 1.1 mmol) was suspended in methanol/dichloromethane/ dimethylsulfoxide (9ml : 3ml : 1ml). Lithium borohydride (0.12 g, 5.5 mmol) was added portionwise. The reaction mixture was stirred under nitrogen at room temperature for 1 hour. The pH was adjusted to pH 3-4 using 1N hydrogen chloride, the

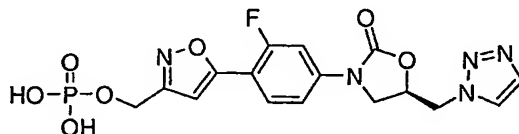
20 mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and the resulting white precipitate was collected by suction filtration. The white solid was dried *in vacuo*, giving 0.28g of the desired product.

MS (ES⁺) 360.15 (MH⁺) for C₁₆H₁₄FN₅O₄

¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 3.98 (dd, 1H); 4.30 (t, 1H); 4.57 (d, 2H); 4.87 (d, 2H); 5.20 (m, 1H); 5.55 (t, 1H); 6.80 (d, 1H); 7.48 (dd, 1H); 7.65 (dd, 1H); 7.77, (s, 1H); 7.97 (t, 1H);

25 8.18 (s, 1H).

Example 4: (5-{2-Fluoro-4-[(5*R*)-2-oxo-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)methyl]-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl}phenyl)isoxazol-3-yl)methyl dihydrogen phosphate



5

Di-*tert*-butyl (5-{2-fluoro-4-[(5*R*)-2-oxo-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)methyl]-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl}phenyl)isoxazol-3-yl)methyl phosphate (**Intermediate 7**, 0.06 g, 0.1 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (1 ml). Trifluoroacetic acid (0.1 ml) was added and the reaction stirred at room temperature under nitrogen for 1.5 hours. The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and then concentrated from dichloromethane (2x) and diethyl ether (5x) to remove residual acid. The resulting crude products from two batches were combined and purified using a YMC-ODF AQ column by Gilson reverse phase purification with water (0.1% trifluoroacetic acid) and acetonitrile (0.1% trifluoroacetic acid) as the mobile phase giving 0.06g of a white solid corresponding to the desired product. To make the disodium salt of the phosphoric acid, the phosphate (0.06 g) was suspended in water (10 ml) and saturated sodium bicarbonate was added dropwise until a pH of 7-8 was reached. The water was removed by lyophilization giving a white solid (65 mg) which was 72% desired product and 18% sodium bicarbonate. **MS (ES⁺)** 440.19 (MH⁺) for C₁₆H₁₅FN₅O₇P (phosphoric acid). **¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-*d*₆)** δ: 3.98 (dd, 1H); 4.31 (t, 1H); 4.87 (d, 2H); 5.00 (d, 2H); 5.19 (m, 1H); 6.88 (d, 1H); 7.49 (dd, 1H); 7.67 (dd, 1H); 7.77, (s, 1H); 7.97 (t, 1H); 8.18 (s, 1H) (2-OH protons obscured by water peak) (phosphoric acid).

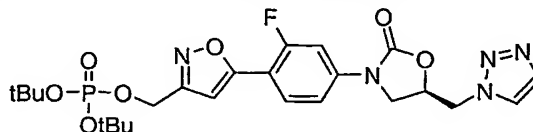
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Example 4 is an example of a suitable pro-drug for Example 3.

The intermediate for this compound was prepared as follows:

25

Intermediate 7: Di-*tert*-butyl (5-{2-fluoro-4-[(5*R*)-2-oxo-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)methyl]-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl}phenyl)isoxazol-3-yl)methyl phosphate

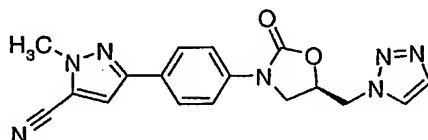


(5*R*)-3-{3-Fluoro-4-[3-(hydroxymethyl)isoxazol-5-yl]phenyl}-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Example 3**, 0.1 g, 0.3 mmol) was suspended in dichloromethane (3 ml), and di-*tert*-butyl-*N,N*-diethylphosphoramidite (93 μ l, 0.3 mmol) and 1*H*-tetrazole (35 mg, 0.5 mmol) were added sequentially. The mixture was stirred under nitrogen at room temperature for 1.5 hours. Solution was cooled to 0 °C and *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (\approx 70%, 0.1 g, 0.4 mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C under nitrogen for 2 hours. After warming to room temperature, saturated sodium bisulfite (3 ml) was added and the mixture stirred for 5 minutes followed by dilution with dichloromethane (10 ml). After the layers were separated, the aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3x10 ml); the combined organics were washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate, and brine, and dried over sodium sulfate. The crude material was purified by chromatography (using a Jones Flashmaster) using 0-5% methanol in dichloromethane as eluent. Relevant fractions were combined giving 91mg of the desired product as a white solid.

15 **MS (ES+)** 552.19 (MH+) for C₂₄H₃₁FN₅O₇P.

¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ : 1.43 (s, 18H); 3.98 (dd, 1H); 4.30 (t, 1H); 4.87 (d, 2H); 5.05 (dd, 2H); 5.20 (m, 1H); 6.88 (dd, 1H); 7.50 (dd, 1H); 7.66 (dd, 1H); 7.77, (s, 1H); 7.98 (t, 1H); 8.18 (s, 1H).

20 **Example 5: 1-Methyl-3-{4-[(5*R*)-2-oxo-5-(1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1*H*-pyrazole-5-carbonitrile**



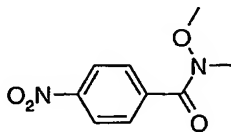
3-{4-[(5*R*)-5-(Azidomethyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-carbonitrile (**Intermediate 14**, 00 mg, 0.62 mmol), bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene (0.70 ml, 6.50 mmol) and dioxane (5 ml) were combined and warmed to 90 °C for 8 hours. The mixture was evaporated and purified by chromatography on silica gel eluting with ethyl acetate to give the title compound as an off-white solid (110 mg).

MS (ESP): 350 (M+1) for C₁₇H₁₅N₇O₂

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ : 3.95 (dd, 1H); 4.08 (s, 3H); 4.30 (t, 1H); 4.87 (d, 2H); 5.17 (m, 1H); 7.59 (d, 2H); 7.63 (s, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 7.85 (d, 2H); 8.20 (s, 1H).

The intermediates for this compound were prepared as follows:

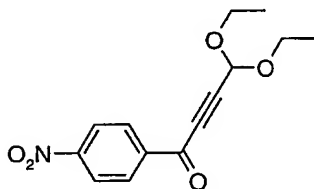
Intermediate 8: *N*-Methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-nitrobenzamide



N,O-(Dimethyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (6.45 g, 65.8 mmol), triethylamine (20 ml, 145
5 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (300 mg, 2.5 mmol) were suspended in 150 ml of DMF
at 0 °C. 4-Nitrobenzoyl chloride (10 g, 53.8 mmol) was added. After 1.5 hours at 0 °C, the
mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with 1M HCl and then sat. NaCl and dried
over sodium sulfate. Filtration and evaporation gave the title compound as a light yellow
solid (8.51 g).

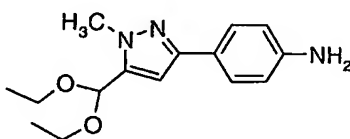
10 ¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 3.31 (s, 3H); 3.34 (s, 3H); 7.84 (d, 2H); 8.32 (d, 2H).

Intermediate 9: 4,4-Diethoxy-1-(4-nitrophenyl)but-2-yn-1-one

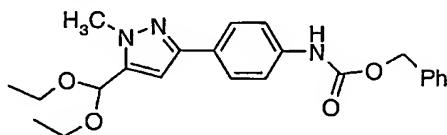


3,3-Diethoxyprop-1-yne (8.5 ml, 59 mmol) was dissolved in THF (100 ml). The solution was
15 cooled to -70 °C, and *n*BuLi (19 ml of 2.5 M soln in hexanes, 47.5 mmol) was added over 5
min. The solution was warmed to 0 °C for 15 min, then cooled to -70 °C again. A solution
of *N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-4-nitrobenzamide (**Intermediate 8**, 8.04 g, 38.1 mmol) in THF (50
ml) was added dropwise over 15 min. The solution was warmed to 0 °C after 15 min, and held
there for 45 min. The reaction mixture was poured into 1M HCl, extracted with ethyl acetate
20 and dried over sodium sulfate. Purification by chromatography on silica gel eluting with 30
to 50% dichloromethane: hexane, gave the title compound as a light orange oil which
solidified on standing (7.14 g).

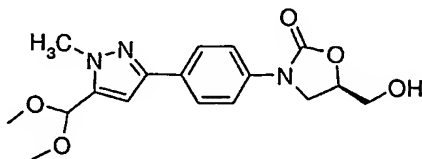
¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 1.23 (m, 6H); 3.64 - 3.76 (m, 4H); 5.77 (s, 1H); 8.28 (d,
2H); 8.45 (d, 2H).

Intermediate 10: 4-[5-(Diethoxymethyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]aniline

4,4-Diethoxy-1-(4-nitrophenyl)but-2-yn-1-one (**Intermediate 9**, 5.77 g, 22.4 mmol),
 5 methylhydrazine (1.2 ml, 22.4 mmol), and ethanol (100 ml) were combined and warmed at
 70 °C for 45 min. THF (50 ml) and palladium on carbon (10%, 100 mg) were added. The
 suspension was stirred under 1 atmosphere of hydrogen gas for 16 hrs. The mixture was
 filtered and evaporated to give the title compound as a light yellow solid (5.54 g).
¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 1.18 (t, 6H); 3.57 (m, 4H); 3.79 (s, 3H); 5.15 (s, 2H); 5.69
 10 (s, 1H); 6.46 (s, 1H); 6.57 (d, 2H); 7.44 (d, 2H).

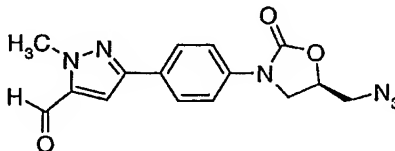
Intermediate 11: Benzyl 4-[5-(diethoxymethyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]phenylcarbamate

4-[5-(Diethoxymethyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]aniline (**Intermediate 10**, 5.9 g, 21.5
 15 mmol), and pyridine (4 ml, 50 mmol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (25 ml) at 0 °C.
 Benzyl chloroformate (3.8 ml, 26.7 mmol) was added slowly over 5 minutes and the resulting
 mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. The mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and
 washed with 1M HCl, saturated NaCl, then dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated give the
 title compound as a thick light orange oil (9.6 g).
 20 ¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 1.17 (t, 6H); 3.59 (m, 4H); 3.83 (s, 3H); 5.18 (s, 2H); 5.72
 (s, 1H); 6.63 (s, 1H); 7.35-7.50 (m, 7H); 7.70 (d, 2H); 9.84 (s, 1H).

Intermediate 12: (5R)-3-{4-[5-(Dimethoxymethyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-3-yl]phenyl}-5-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one

Benzyl 4-[5-(diethoxymethyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]phenylcarbamate (**Intermediate 11**, 8.29 g, 20.2 mmol), was dissolved in THF (150 ml) and cooled to -70 °C. *n*BuLi (15 ml of a 1.6 M solution in hexanes, 24 mmol) was added dropwise over 10 min. After 25 min at -70 °C, (2*R*)-oxiran-2-ylmethyl butyrate (3.7 ml, 26.2 mmol) was added and the solution was
 5 allowed to warm slowly to room temperature over 16 hours. The mixture was poured into 0.25M HCl and extracted with ethyl acetate, the organic layer was washed with saturated NaCl, dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated to give the crude product which was partially hydrolysed to the aldehyde. The crude product was dissolved in 1:1 THF: methanol (12ml), trimethyl orthoformate (2.6 ml, 24 mmol) and camphorsulfonic acid (100 mg, 0.4 mmol) were
 10 added and the solution was warmed at 50 °C for 1 hour. Triethylamine (0.5 ml) was added and the solution was evaporated and purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 60 – 100 % ethyl acetate / hexane, to give the title compound as a white solid (3.47 g).
¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-*d*₆) δ: 3.32 (s, 3H); 3.34 (s, 3H); 3.60 (m, 1H); 3.69 (m, 1H); 3.84 (s, 3H); 3.86 (dd, 1H); 4.13 (t, 1H); 4.71 (m, 1H); 5.23 (t, 1H); 5.65 (s, 1H); 6.73 (s, 1H);
 15 7.61 (d, 2H); 7.81 (d, 2H).

Intermediate 13: 3-{4-[5-(Azidomethyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-carbaldehyde

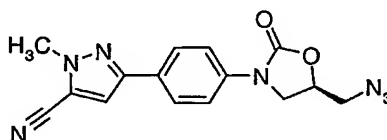


(5*R*)-3-{4-[5-(Dimethoxymethyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-3-yl]phenyl}-5-(hydroxymethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 12**, 2 g, 5.76 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (30 ml) and THF (10 ml) at 0 °C. Triethylamine (1.2 ml, 8.7 mmol) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.55 ml, 7.08 mmol) were added and the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 hour. The mixture was poured into water, washed with saturated NaCl, 1M HCl, dried over sodium
 25 sulfate and evaporated to give the crude mesylate. The mesylate was taken up into DMF (20 ml), then sodium azide (0.54 g, 8.3 mmol), 18-crown-6 (80 mg, 0.3 mmol) and tetra(*n*butyl)ammonium iodide (100 mg, 0.27 mmol) were added. The solution was heated at 90 °C for 16 hours, diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with water, saturated NaCl and dried over sodium sulfate. Evaporation gave the crude azide. The azide was dissolved in
 30 methylene chloride (20 ml), trifluoroacetic acid (20 ml) and water (0.2 ml) were added and

the mixture was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature. Evaporation followed by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 50 to 100% ethyl acetate: hexane gave the title compound as a yellow solid (1.02 g).

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 3.72 - 3.86 (m, 3H); 4.18 (s, 1H); 4.20 (m, 1H); 4.93 (m, 1H); 5.18 (s, 1H); 7.51 (s, 1H); 7.66 (d, 2H); 7.90 (d, 2H); 9.96 (s, 1H).

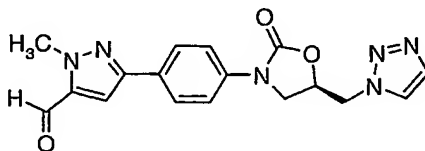
Intermediate 14: 3-{4-[(5R)-5-(Azidomethyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1-methyl-1H-pyrazole-5-carbonitrile



10 3-{4-[(5R)-5-(Azidomethyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1-methyl-1H-pyrazole-5-carbaldehyde (**Intermediate 13**, 500 mg, 1.53 mmol) was dissolved in dioxane (8 ml), ethanol (4 ml), hydroxylamine hydrochloride (130 mg, 1.87 mmol) and a solution of sodium carbonate (100 mg, 0.94 mmol) in water (3 ml) were added and the resulting suspension was warmed to approximately 50 °C for 1-2 minutes to give a clear solution. The solution was stirred at room temperature for 15 minutes, poured into water, extracted with ethyl acetate, dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated to give the crude oxime as an off white solid (515 mg). The oxime was dissolved in THF (20 ml) and cooled to 0 °C. Thionyl chloride (0.55 ml, 7.53 mmol) was added and the resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was evaporated and purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 20 30 to 50% ethyl acetate: hexane, to give the title compound as a white solid (470 mg).

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 3.70-3.86 (m, 3H); 4.08 (s, 3H); 4.21 (t, 1H); 4.93 (m, 1H); 7.63 (s, 1H); 7.67 (d, 2H); 7.87 (d, 2H).

Example 6: 1-Methyl-3-{4-[(5R)-2-oxo-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1H-pyrazole-5-carbaldehyde



3-{4-[(5R)-5-(Azidomethyl)-2-oxo-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1-methyl-1H-pyrazole-5-carbaldehyde (**Intermediate 13**, 50 mg, 0.15 mmol), bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene (0.17 ml,

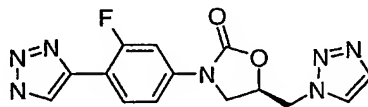
1.58 mmol) and dioxane (1 ml) were combined and warmed to 90 °C for 4.5 hours. The mixture was evaporated and purified by chromatography on silica gel, eluting with ethyl acetate to give the title compound as a white solid (25 mg).

MS (ESP): 353 (M+1) for C₁₇H₁₆N₆O₃

5 ¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆) δ: 3.96 (dd, 1H); 4.17 (s, 3H); 4.29 (t, 1H); 4.87 (d, 2H); 5.17 (m, 1H); 7.51 (s, 1H); 7.58 (d, 2H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 7.88 (d, 2H); 8.20 (s, 1H); 9.96 (s, 1H).

Example 7: (5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one

10



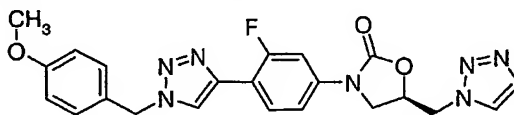
(5R)-3-{3-Fluoro-4-[1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]phenyl}-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 15**, 1.12 g, 2.49 mmol) was dissolved in trifluoroacetic acid (20 ml) and stirred at 65 °C overnight. The solution was concentrated
15 then diluted with water until a precipitate formed. The light green solid was recrystallized using acetone and methanol to give the desired product as a beige solid (0.782 g).

MS (ESP): 330 (MH⁺) for C₁₄H₁₂FN₇O₂

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆): 3.96-3.99 (m, 1H); 4.29-4.32 (t, 1H); 4.88 (d, 2H); 5.17-5.22 (m, 1H); 7.42 (d, 1H); 7.60 (d, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 7.99 (br s, 0.6H); 8.08 (br s, 0.6H); 8.11 (br
20 s, 0.4H); 8.20 (s, 1H); 8.34 (br s, 0.4H) 15.18 (br s, 0.6H); 15.49 (br s, 0.4H).

The intermediates for this compound were prepared as follows:

Intermediate 15: (5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-[1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



25

(5R)-3-(4-Ethynyl-3-fluorophenyl)-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 16**, 1.0 g, 3.5 mmol) was dissolved in 1,4-dioxane (35 ml). 1-Azido-4-methoxybenzene

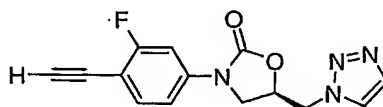
(2.9 g, 18 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at 100 °C overnight. Additional 1-azido-4-methoxybenzene (2.0 g, 12 mmol) was added and the solution was stirred an additional six days. The solution was adsorbed onto silica gel and chromatographed eluting with 40% ethyl acetate/hexanes, to ethyl acetate, followed by 2-10% methanol/ethyl acetate.

- 5 Relevant fractions were combined and recrystallized from methanol (300 ml), ethyl acetate (300 ml), acetone (200 ml), and ethanol (100 ml) to give the desired product (408 mg) as a beige solid.

MS (ESP): 450 (MH⁺) for C₂₂H₂₀FN₇O₃

- ¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆): 3.76 (s, 3H); 3.97 (dd, 1H); 4.29 (t, 1H); 4.87 (d, 2H); 5.16-
10 5.20 (m, 1H); 5.6 (s, 2H); 6.96 (s, 1H); 6.97 (s, 1H); 7.37 (s, 1H); 7.39 (s, 1H); 7.41 (d, 1H);
7.59 (d, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 8.11 (t, 1H); 8.20 (s, 1H); 8.46 (s, 1H).

Intermediate 16: (5R)-3-(4-Ethynyl-3-fluorophenyl)-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



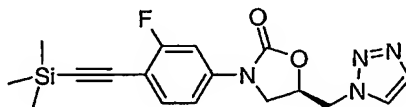
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(5R)-3-{3-Fluoro-4-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]phenyl}-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Intermediate 17**, 6.1 g, 17 mmol) was stirred in methanol (155 ml). 1 N Potassium hydroxide (30 ml) was added and the reaction was stirred for 20 minutes. The solution was diluted with methylene chloride (200 ml) then acidified to pH 1.5 using 1 N
20 hydrochloric acid. The solution was diluted with water and the compound was extracted using methylene chloride. The organic layer was washed with water, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered, and concentrated. The orange solid was adsorbed onto silica gel and chromatographed using ethyl acetate to give the title compound as a yellow solid (2.3 g).

MS (ESP): 287 (MH⁺) for C₁₄H₁₁FN₄O₂

- ¹H-NMR 300 MHz (DMSO-d₆): 3.94 (dd, 1H); 4.27 (t, 1H); 4.46 (s, 1H); 4.86 (d, 2H); 5.17-
25 5.19 (m, 1H); 7.33 (dd, 1H); 7.53 (dd, 1H); 7.58 (s, 1H); 7.78 (s, 1H); 8.19 (s, 1H).

Intermediate 17: (5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-[(trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



(5R)-3-(3-Fluoro-4-iodophenyl)-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one

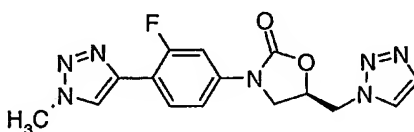
5 **(Intermediate 6, 0.50 g, 1.3 mmol)**, tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium (0) (24 mg, 0.026 mmol), tri-2-furylphosphine (12 mg, 0.05 mmol), and copper iodide (5.0 mg, 0.013 mmol) were combined in a flask and degassed. Tetrahydrofuran (7.5 ml), triethylamine (0.54 g, 5.4 mmol) and a minimal amount of 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone (1.5 ml) were added to obtain a brown solution. (Trimethylsilyl)acetylene (0.18 g, 1.8 mmol) was added and the reaction was
 10 stirred at room temperature overnight. The solution was adsorbed onto silica gel and chromatographed eluting with ethyl acetate to give the title compound as a brown oil (1.2 g) (contains 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone).

MS (ESP): 359 (MH⁺) for C₁₇H₁₉FN₄O₂Si

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆): 0.25 (s, 9H); 3.94 (dd, 1H); 4.25-4.29 (m, 1H); 4.86 (d, 2H);

15 5.17-5.19 (m, 1H); 7.32 (dd, 1H); 7.53 (dd, 1H); 7.56 (t, 1H); 7.78 (s, 1H); 8.19 (s, 1H).

Example 8: (5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-(1-methyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



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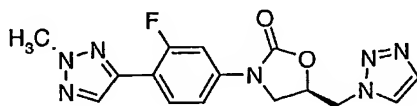
(5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (**Example 7, 1.7 g, 5.2 mmol**) was stirred in *N,N*-dimethylformamide at 0 °C. Sodium hydride (0.40 g, 10 mol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 minutes. Iodomethane (0.88 g, 6.2 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred for three days, slowly
 25 warming to room temperature. The mixture was diluted with water and extracted using ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with water, dried (magnesium sulfate) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was recrystallized using ethyl acetate to give a mixture of products (0.42 g) as beige solid. The solid was dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (5 ml), acetonitrile (12 ml) and water (1 ml) and the isomers were separated using Gilson HPLC.

Peaks 1 and 2 were collected, concentrated and lyophilized to give a light yellow solid (Example 8, peak 1, 213 mg; Example 9, peak 2, 207 mg). NOE experiments were used to distinguish the two isomers with the methyl groups of peak 1 and 2 corresponding to the 1 and 2 positions of the nitrogen, respectively.

5 MS (ESP): 344 (MH⁺) for C₁₅H₁₄FN₇O₂

¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆): 3.95-3.98 (m, 1H); 4.13 (s, 3H); 4.30 (t, 1H); 4.88 (s, 2H); 5.17-5.21 (m, 1H); 7.41 (d, 1H); 7.60 (d, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 8.12 (t, 1H); 8.20 (s, 1H); 8.39 (s, 1H).

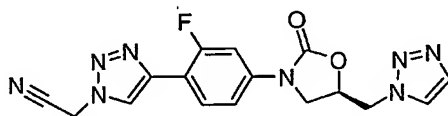
10 Example 9: (5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-(2-methyl-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one



MS (ESP): 344 (MH⁺) for C₁₅H₁₄FN₇O₂

15 ¹H-NMR 500 MHz (DMSO-d₆): 3.96-3.99 (m, 1H); 4.24 (s, 3H); 4.30 (t, 1H); 4.88 (s, 2H); 5.18-5.21 (m, 1H); 7.42 (d, 1H); 7.59 (d, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 7.94 (t, 1H); 8.04 (d, 1H); 8.20 (s, 1H).

20 Example 10: (4-{2-Fluoro-4-[(5R)-2-oxo-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)acetonitrile



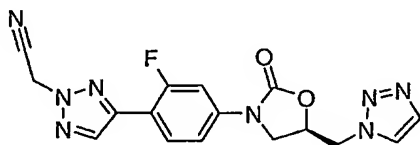
(5R)-3-[3-Fluoro-4-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)phenyl]-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-2-one (Example 7, 1.5 g, 4.6 mmol) was stirred in *N,N*-dimethylformamide at 0
25 °C. Sodium hydride (0.35 g, 9.2 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred 30 minutes. Bromoacetonitrile (0.66 g, 5.5 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred overnight, slowly warming to room temperature. Starting material was present so additional bromoacetonitrile (0.33 g, 2.8 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred for two additional days. The mixture was diluted with water and extracted using ethyl acetate. The

organic layer was washed with water, dried (magnesium sulfate) and concentrated under vacuum to give a yellow solid (1.84 g). The solid was dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (18 ml) and water (5 ml) and the isomers were separated using Gilson HPLC. Peaks 1 and 2 were collected, concentrated and lyophilized to give a light yellow solid (**Example 10**, peak 1, 36 mg; **Example 11**, peak 2, 182 mg). NOE experiments were used to distinguish the two isomers with the cyano group of peaks 1 and 2 corresponding to the 1 and 2 positions of the nitrogen, respectively.

MS (ESP): 369 (MH^+) for $C_{16}H_{13}FN_8O_2$

1H -NMR 500 MHz (DMSO- d_6): 3.98 (dd, 1H); 4.31 (t, 1H); 4.88 (d, 2H); 5.17-5.22 (m, 1H); 5.88 (s, 2H); 7.44 (d, 1H); 7.63 (d, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 8.15 (t, 1H); 8.21 (s, 1H); 8.59 (d, 1H).

Example 11: (4-{2-Fluoro-4-[(5R)-2-oxo-5-(1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-ylmethyl)-1,3-oxazolidin-3-yl]phenyl}-2H-1,2,3-triazol-2-yl)acetonitrile



15

MS (ESP): 369 (MH^+) for $C_{16}H_{13}FN_8O_2$

1H -NMR 500 MHz (DMSO- d_6): 3.98 (dd, 1H); 4.31 (t, 1H); 4.89 (d, 2H); 5.18-5.23 (m, 1H); 6.01 (s, 2H); 7.46 (d, 1H); 7.62 (d, 1H); 7.79 (s, 1H); 7.96 (t, 1H); 8.21 (s, 1H); 8.26 (d, 1H).